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IMMORTAL SONGS  
OF  
CAMP AND FIELD







**BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL**  
*(From the celebrated painting by Trumbull)*





# ° IMMORTAL SONGS OF CAMP AND FIELD

*The Story of their Inspiration together  
with striking Anecdotes connected with  
their History.* ▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲

By

REV. LOUIS ALBERT BANKS, D. D.

Author of "Immortal Hymns and  
Their Story," "Christ and His Friends"  
"The Christian Gentleman," Etc. Etc

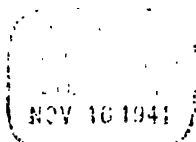


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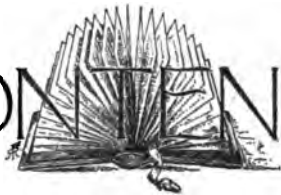
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*To my sister*  
**LACIBEL AINSWORTH WOOD**  
*this volume is lovingly and gratefully*  
*dedicated by the author*



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*Bunker Hill Monument*



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*Washington Monument*





*JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE*

### *THE AMERICAN FLAG.*

When Freedom, from her mountain height,  
Unfurled her standard to the air,  
She tore the azure robe of night,  
And set the stars of glory there!  
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes  
The milky baldric of the skies,  
And striped its pure celestial white  
With streakings of the morning light;  
Then, from his mansion in the sun,  
She called her eagle bearer down,  
And gave into his mighty hand  
The symbol of her chosen land!

Majestic monarch of the cloud!  
Who rear'st aloft thy regal form,  
To hear the tempest trummings loud,  
And see the lightning-lances driven,  
When stride the warriors of the storm  
And rolls the thunder-drum of heaven!  
Child of the sun! To thee 'tis given  
To guard the banner of the free,  
To hover in the sulphur smoke,  
To ward away the battle stroke,  
And bid its blendings shine afar  
Like rainbows on the cloud of war,  
The harbingers of Victory.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

Flag of the brave! Thy folds shall fly,  
The sign of hope and triumph high!  
When speaks the signal trumpet tone  
And the long line comes gleaming on  
(Ere yet the life-blood warm and wet  
Has dimmed the glistening bayonet),  
Each soldier eye shall brightly turn  
To where thy sky-born glories burn,  
And, as his springing steps advance,  
Catch war and vengeance from the glance.  
And when the cannon mouthing cloud  
Heaves in wild wreaths the battle shroud,  
And gory sabres rise and fall,  
Like shoots of flame on midnight's pall;  
There shall thy meteor-glances glow,  
And cowering foes shall shrink beneath  
Each gallant arm that strikes below  
That lovely messenger of death.

Flag of the seas! On ocean wave  
Thy stars shall glitter o'er the brave;  
When death, careering on the gale,  
Sweeps darkly round the bellied sail,  
And frightened waves rush wildly back  
Before the broadside's reeling rack,  
Each dying wanderer of the sea  
Shall look at once to heaven and thee,  
And smile to see thy splendors fly  
In triumph o'er his closing eye.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

Flag of the free heart's hope and home,  
By angel hands to valor given;  
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome  
And all thy hues were born in heaven!  
As fixed as yonder orb divine,  
That saw thy bannered blaze unfurled,  
Shall thy proud stars resplendent shine,  
The guard and glory of the world.

—*Joseph Rodman Drake.*

The author of *The American Flag* was born to poverty, but by hard work he obtained a good education, and studied medicine under Dr. Nicholas Romaine, by whom he was greatly beloved. He obtained his degree and shortly afterward, in October, 1816, he was married to Sarah Eckford, who brought him a good deal of wealth. Two years later, his health failing, he visited New Orleans for the winter, hoping for its recovery. He returned to New York in the spring, only to die in the following autumn, September, 1820, at the age of twenty-five. He is buried at Hunt's Point, in Westchester County, New York, where he spent some of the years of his boyhood. On his monument are these lines, written by his friend, Fitz-Green Halleck,—

“None knew him but to love him,  
Nor named him but to praise.”

Drake was a poet from his childhood. The anec-

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

notes preserved of his early youth show the fertility of his imagination. His first rhymes were a conundrum which he perpetrated when he was but five years old. He was one day, for some childish offense, punished by imprisonment in a portion of the garret shut off by some wooden bars. His sisters stole up to witness his suffering condition, and found him pacing the room, with something like a sword on his shoulder, watching an incongruous heap on the floor, in the character of Don Quixote at his vigils over the armor in the church. He called a boy of his acquaintance, named Oscar, "Little Fingal;" his ideas from books thus early seeking embodiment in living shapes. In the same spirit the child listened with great delight to the stories of an old neighbor lady about the Revolution. He would identify himself with the scene, and once, when he had given her a very energetic account of a ballad which he had read, upon her remarking that it was a tough story, he quickly replied, with a deep sigh: "Ah! we had it tough enough that day, ma'am."

Drake wrote *The Mocking-Bird*, one of his poems which has lived and will live, when a mere boy. It shows not only a happy facility but an unusual knowledge of the imitative faculty in the young poets of his time.

*The American Flag* was written in May, 1819, when the author was not quite twenty-four. It has







*MOUNT HOOD*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

remained unchanged except the last four lines. It originally concluded:—

“As fixed as yonder orb divine,  
That saw thy bannered blaze unfurled,  
Shall thy proud stars resplendent shine,  
The guard and glory of the world.”

These lines were very unsatisfactory to Drake, and he said to Fitz-Green Halleck, “Fitz, can’t you suggest a better stanza?” Whereupon the brilliant author of *Marco Bozzaris* sat down and wrote in a glowing burst of inspiration the four concluding lines:—

“Forever float that standard sheet!  
Where breathes the foe but falls before us?  
With Freedom’s soil beneath our feet,  
And Freedom’s banner streaming o’er us?”

Drake immediately agreed that these were a splendid improvement on the former ending, and incorporated them into his one poem that is certain of immortality. It was first published in the *New York Evening Post*, in a series known as the *Croaker Pieces*, *The American Flag* being the last one of the series.

The young poet was entirely free from vanity and affectation, and had no morbid seeking for popular applause. When he was on his deathbed, at his wife’s request, Doctor DeKay collected and copied

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

all his poems which could be found and took them to him. "See, Joe," said he to him, "what I have done." "Burn them," he replied; "they are valueless."

Drake's impulsive nature, as well as the spirit and force, yet simplicity, of expression, with his artless manner, gained him many friends. He had that native politeness which springs from benevolence—that would stop to pick up the hat or the crutch of an old servant, or fly to the relief of a child. His acquaintance with Fitz-Green Halleck arose in a romantic incident on the Battery one day when, in a retiring shower, the heavens were spanned by a rainbow. DeKay and Drake were together, and Halleck, a new acquaintance, was talking with them; the conversation taking the turn of some passing expression of the wishes of the moment, Halleck whimsically remarked that it would be heaven for him, just then, to ride on that rainbow and read Campbell. The idea was very pleasing to Drake. He seized Halleck by the hand and from that moment until his untimely death they were bosom friends.







*ROBERT TREAT PAINE*

*ADAMS AND LIBERTY.*

Ye sons of Columbia, who bravely have fought  
For those rights which unstain'd from your sires  
    had descended,  
May you long taste the blessings your valor has  
    bought,  
And your sons reap the soil which your fathers de-  
    fended!

    'Mid the reign of mild peace,  
    May your nation increase,  
With the glory of Rome, and the wisdom of Greece.  
And ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
    waves.

In a clime whose rich vales feed the marts of the  
    world,  
Whose shores are unshaken by Europe's commo-  
    tion,  
The trident of Commerce should never be hurl'd  
To increase the legitimate powers of the ocean.

    But should pirates invade,  
    Though in thunder array'd,  
Let your cannon declare the free charter of trade;  
For ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
    waves.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

The fame of our arms, of our laws the mild sway,  
Had justly ennobled our nation in story,  
Till the dark clouds of faction obscured our young  
day,  
And enveloped the sun of American glory.  
But let traitors be told,  
Who their country have sold,  
And bartered their God for his image in gold,  
That ne'er will the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
waves.

While France her huge limbs bathes recumbent in  
blood,  
And society's base threats with wide dissolution;  
May peace, like the dove who return'd from the flood,  
Find an ark of abode in our mild constitution.  
But, though peace is our aim,  
Yet the boon we disclaim,  
If bought by our sovereignty, justice, or fame;  
For ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
waves.

'Tis the fire of the flint each American warms:  
Let Rome's haughty victors beware of collision;  
Let them bring all the vassals of Europe in arms,  
We're a world by ourselves, and disdain a provision.  
While with patriot pride  
To our laws we're allied,



## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

No foe can subdue us, no faction divide;  
For ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
waves.

Our mountains are crown'd with imperial oak,  
Whose roots, like our liberties, ages have nourish'd;  
But long ere our nation submits to the yoke,  
Not a tree shall be left on the field where it  
flourish'd.

Should invasion impend,  
Every grove would descend  
From the hilltops they shaded our shores to defend;  
For ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
waves.

Let our patriots destroy Anarch's pestilent worm,  
Lest our liberty's growth should be check'd by cor-  
rosion;  
Then let clouds thicken round us: we heed not the  
storm;  
Our realm fears no shock, but the earth's own ex-  
plosion.

Foes assail us in vain,  
Though their fleets bridge the main,  
For our altars and laws with our lives we'll maintain;  
For ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
waves.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

Should the tempest of war overshadow our land,  
Its bolts could ne'er rend Freedom's temple asunder;  
For, unmov'd, at its portal would Washington stand,  
And repulse with his breast the assaults of the  
thunder!

His sword from the sleep  
Of its scabbard would leap,  
And conduct, with its point, every flash to the deep;  
For ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
waves.

Let Fame to the world sound America's voice;  
No intrigues can her sons from their government  
sever:

Her pride is her Adams, their laws are his choice,  
And shall flourish till Liberty slumbers forever.

Then unite heart and hand,  
Like Leonidas' band,  
And swear to the God of the ocean and land,  
That ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
waves.

—Robert Treat Paine.

The father of the author of *Adams and Liberty*,  
or as it has been more usually entitled in later  
days, *Ye Sons of Columbia*, was the Robert Treat  
Paine who was one of the immortal signers of  
the Declaration of Independence. The author of





*STATUE OF THE MINUTEMAN AT CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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this hymn was given by his parents the name of Thomas, but on account of that being the name of a notorious infidel of his time, he appealed to the legislature of Massachusetts to give him a *Christian* name; thereafter he took the name of his father, Robert Treat Paine.

He was a very precocious and brilliant youth. When he was seven years of age his family removed from Taunton, where he was born, to Boston, and there he prepared for Harvard College at one of the public schools, entering the freshman class in his fifteenth year. One of his classmates wrote a squib on him in verse on the college wall, and Paine, on consultation with his friends, being advised to retaliate in kind, did so, and thus became aware of the poetic faculty of which he afterward made such liberal use. He wrote nearly all his college compositions in verse, with such success that he was assigned the post of poet at the College Exhibition in the autumn of 1791, and at the Commencement in the following year. After receiving his diploma, he entered the counting-room of Mr. James Tisdale, but soon proved that his tastes did not lie in that direction. He would often be carried away by day-dreams and make entries in his day-book in poetry. On one occasion when he was sent to the bank with a check for five hundred dollars, he met some literary acquaintances on the way and went off with them to Cambridge, and spent a week in the enjoy-

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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ment of "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," returning to his duties with the cash at the end of that period.

In 1792 young Paine fell deeply in love with an actress, a Miss Baker, aged sixteen, who was one of the first players to appear in Boston. Their performances were at first called dramatic recitations to avoid a collision with a law forbidding "stage plays." He married Miss Baker in 1794, and was promptly turned out of doors by his father.

The next year, on taking his degree of A.M. at Cambridge, he delivered a poem entitled *The Invention of Letters*. There was a great deal of excitement over this poem at the time, as it contained some lines referring to Jacobinism, which the college authorities crossed out, but which he delivered as written. The poem was greatly admired, and Washington wrote him a letter in appreciation of its merits. It was immediately published and large editions sold, the author receiving fifteen hundred dollars as his share of the profits, which was no doubt a very grateful return to a poet with a young wife and an obdurate father. The breach with his family, however, was afterward healed.

Mr. Paine was also the author of a poem entitled *The Ruling Passion*, for which he received twelve hundred dollars. Still another famous poem of his was called *The Steeds of Apollo*.

In 1794 he produced his earliest ode, *Rise, Colum-*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

---

*bia*, which, perhaps, was the seed thought from which later sprang the more extended hymn,—

“ When first the sun o’er ocean glow’d  
And earth unveil’d her virgin breast,  
Supreme ’mid Nature’s vast abode  
Was heard th’ Almighty’s dread behest:  
‘ Rise, Columbia, brave and free,  
Poise the globe, and bound the sea.’ ”

His most famous song, *Adams and Liberty*,—which is sung to the same tune as Key’s *Star-Spangled Banner*, or *Anacreon in Heaven*,—was written four years later at the request of the Massachusetts Charitable Fire Society. Its sale yielded him a profit of more than seven hundred and fifty dollars. These receipts show an immediate popularity which has seldom been achieved by patriotic songs. In 1799 he delivered an oration on the first anniversary of the dissolution of the alliance with France which was a great oratorical triumph. The author sent a copy, after its publication, to Washington, and received a reply in which the General says: “ You will be assured that I am never more gratified than when I see the effusions of genius from some of the rising generation, which promises to secure our national rank in the literary world; as I trust their firm, manly, and patriotic conduct will ever maintain it with dignity in the political.”

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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The next to the last stanza of *Adams and Liberty* was not in the song as originally written. Paine was dining with Major Benjamin Russell, when he was reminded that his song had made no mention of Washington. The host said he could not fill his glass until the error had been corrected, whereupon the author, after a moment's thinking, scratched off the lines which pay such a graceful tribute to the First American:—

“ Should the tempest of war overshadow our land,  
Its bolts could ne'er rend Freedom's temple  
asunder;  
For, unmov'd, at its portal would Washington  
stand,  
And repulse with his breast the assaults of the  
thunder!  
His sword from the sleep  
Of its scabbard would leap,  
And conduct, with its point, every flash to the  
deep;  
For ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its  
waves.”

Instead of being added to the hymn it was inserted as it here appears. The second, fourth, and fifth stanzas have been usually omitted in recent publications of the hymn.

The brilliant genius of Paine was sadly eclipsed



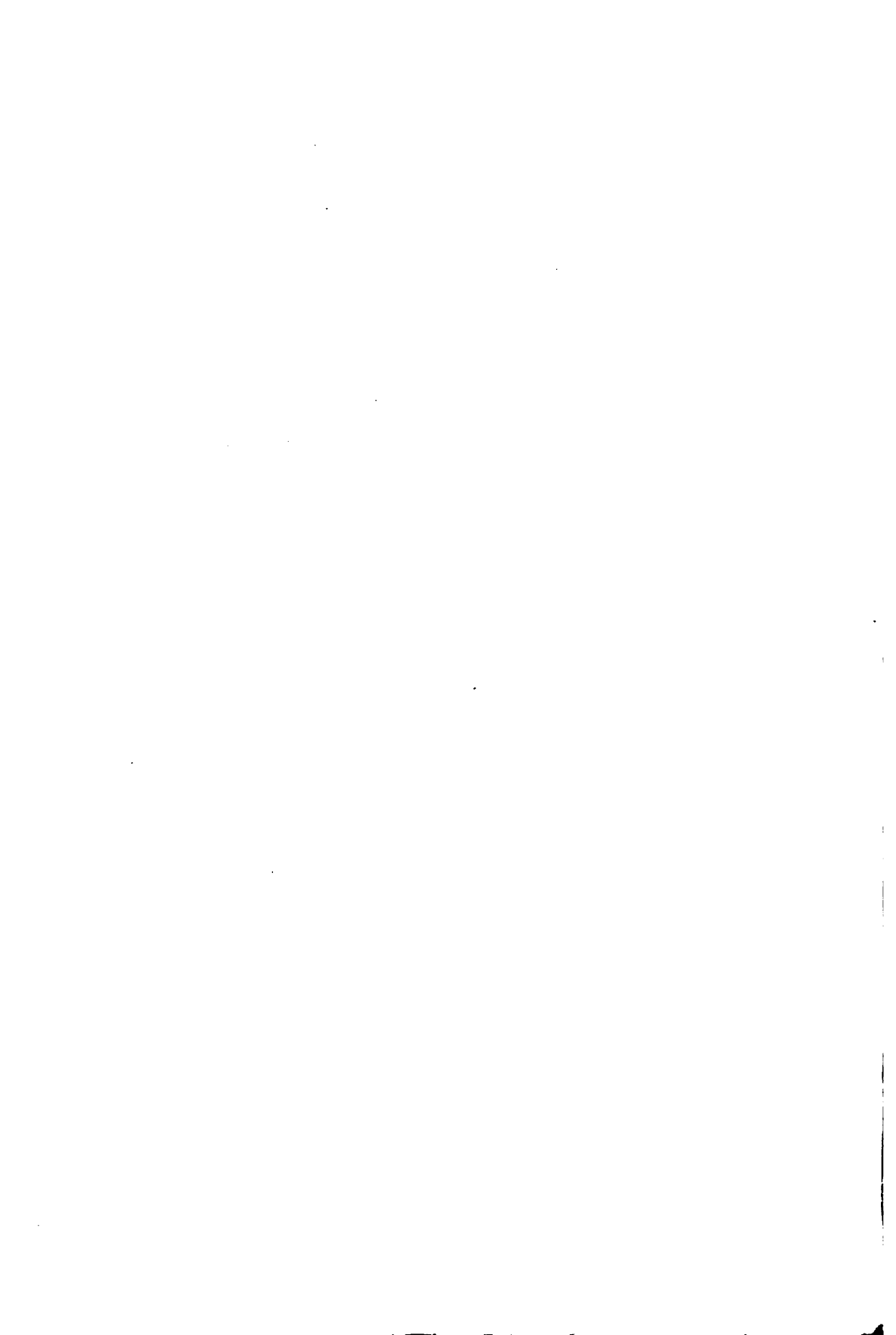
## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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by strong drink, that dire foe of many men of bright literary promise. His sun, which had risen so proudly, found an untimely setting about the beginning of the war of 1812.



*Liberty Bell*







*GEORGE WASHINGTON*

### *YANKEE DOODLE.*

Father and I went down to camp  
Along with Captain Gooding,  
And there we saw the men and boys,  
As thick as hasty pudding.  
Yankee Doodle, keep it up,  
Yankee Doodle Dandy!  
Mind the music and the step,  
And with the gals be handy!

And there we see a thousand men  
As rich as Squire David,  
And what they wasted every day,—  
I wish it had been saved.

The 'lasses they eat up every day  
Would keep our house all winter,—  
They have so much that I'll be bound  
They eat whene'er they've a mind to.

And there we see a whopping gun,  
As big as a log of maple,  
Mounted on a little cart,—  
A load for father's cattle.

And every time they fired it off  
It took a horn of powder,  
And made a noise like father's gun,  
Only a nation louder.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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I went as near to it  
As 'Siah's underpinning;  
Father went as nigh agin,—  
I thought the devil was in him.

Cousin Simon grew so bold,  
I thought he meant to cock it;  
He scared me so, I streaked it off,  
And hung to father's pocket.

And Captain Davis had a gun  
He kind o' clapped his hand on,  
And stuck a crooked stabbing-iron  
Upon the little end on 't.

And there I saw a pumpkin shell  
As big as mother's basin;  
And every time they sent one off,  
They scampered like tarnation.

I saw a little bar'el, too,  
Its heads were made of leather;  
They knocked on it with little plugs,  
To call the folks together.

And there was Captain Washington,  
With grand folks all about him;  
They says he's grown so tarnal proud,  
He cannot ride without them.

He had on his meeting-clothes,  
And rode a slapping stallion,

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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And gave his orders to the men,—  
I guess there was a million.

And then the feathers in his hat,  
They were so tarnal fine-ah,  
I wanted peskily to get  
To hand to my Jemima.

And then they'd fife away like fun  
And play on cornstalk fiddles;  
And some had ribbons red as blood  
All wound about their middles.

The troopers, too, would gallop up,  
And fire right in our faces;  
It scared me a'most to death  
To see them run such races.

And then I saw a snarl of men  
A-digging graves, they told me,  
So tarnal long, so tarnal deep,—  
They allowed they were to hold me.

It scared me so I hooked it off,  
Nor stopped as I remember,  
Nor turned about, till I got home,  
Locked up in mother's chamber.

It is certainly the tune of *Yankee Doodle*, and not the words of this old song, which captured the fancy of the country and held its sway in America for nearly a hundred and fifty years.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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The tune, however, is much older than that. It has been claimed in many lands. When Kossuth was in this country making his plea for liberty for Hungary, he informed a writer of the *Boston Post* that, when the Hungarians that accompanied him first heard *Yankee Doodle* on a Mississippi River steamer, they immediately recognized it as one of the old national airs of their native land, one played in the dances of that country, and they began to caper and dance as they had been accustomed to do in Hungary.

It has been claimed also in Holland as an old harvest song. It is said that when the laborers received for wages "as much buttermilk as they could drink, and a tenth of the grain," they used to sing as they reaped, to the tune of *Yankee Doodle*, the words,—

"Yanker, didel, doodle down,  
Diddle, dudel, lanther,  
Yanke viver, voover vown,  
Botermilk und tanther."

From Spain, also, comes a claim. The American Secretary of Legation, Mr. Buckingham Smith, wrote from Madrid under date of June 3, 1858: "The tune of *Yankee Doodle*, from the first of my showing it here, has been acknowledged, by persons acquainted with music, to bear a strong resemblance to the popular airs of Biscay; and yesterday,







*BOSTON COMMON  
(Beacon Street Mail)*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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a professor from the north recognized it as being much like the ancient sword-dance played on solemn occasions by the people of San Sebastian. He says the tune varies in those provinces. The first strains are identically those of the heroic Danza Esparta of brave old Biscay."

France puts in a claim, and declares that *Yankee Doodle* is an old vintage song from the southern part of that land of grapes; while Italy, too, claims *Yankee Doodle* for her own.

The probabilities are that it was introduced into England from Holland.

*Yankee Doodle* became an American institution in June, 1755. General Braddock, of melancholy fate, was gathering the colonists to an encampment near Albany for an attack on the French and Indians at Niagara. The countrymen came into camp in a medley of costumes, from the buckskins and furs of the American Indian to some quaint old-fashioned military heirloom of a century past. The British soldiers made great sport of their ragged clothes and the quaint music to which they marched. There was among these regular troops from England a certain Dr. Richard Shuckburg, who could not only patch up human bodies, but had a great facility in patching up tunes as well. As these grotesque countrymen marched into camp, this quick-witted doctor recalled the old air which was sung by the cavaliers in ridicule of Cromwell,

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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who was said to have ridden into Oxford on a small horse with his single plume fastened into a sort of knot which was derisively called a "macaroni." The words were,—

" Yankee Doodle came to town,  
Upon a Kentish pony;  
He stuck a feather in his cap,  
Upon a macaroni."

Doctor Shuckburg at once began to plan a joke upon the uncouth newcomers. He set down the notes of *Yankee Doodle*, wrote along with them the lively travesty upon Cromwell, and gave them to the militia musicians as the latest martial music of England. The band quickly caught the simple and contagious air which would play itself, and in a few hours it was sounding through the camp amid the laughter of the British soldiers. It was a very prophetic piece of fun, however, which became significant a few years later. When the battles of Concord and Lexington began the Revolutionary War, the English, when proudly advancing, played along the road *God save the King*; but after they had been routed, and were making their disastrous retreat, the Americans followed them with the taunting *Yankee Doodle*.

It was only twenty-five years after Doctor Shuckburg's joke when Lord Cornwallis marched into the lines of these same old ragged Continentals to

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surrender his army and his sword to the tune of *Yankee Doodle*.

Francis Hopkinson, of Philadelphia, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and the father of Joseph Hopkinson, the author of *Hail Columbia*, adapted the words of his famous song *The Battle of the Kegs*, to the tune of *Yankee Doodle*. David Bushnell, the inventor of the torpedo, in December, 1777, had set adrift at night a large number of kegs charged with gunpowder, which were designed to explode on coming in contact with the British vessels in the Delaware. They failed in their object, but, exploding in the vicinity, created intense alarm in the fleet, which kept up for hours a continuous discharge of cannon and small arms at every object in the river. This was "the battle of the kegs."

Verses without number have been sung to the tune of *Yankee Doodle*, but the ballad given here is the one that was best known and most frequently sung during the war for independence. They are said to have been written by a gentleman of Connecticut whose name has not survived. The exact date of their first publication is not known, but as these verses were sung at the Battle of Bunker Hill it must have been as early as 1775.





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*FRANCIS SCOTT KEY*



*THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER.*

O say, can you see by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last  
gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the  
perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly  
streaming!

And the rocket's red glare,

The bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still  
there;

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On that shore, dimly seen through the mists of the  
deep,

Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence re-  
poses,

What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering  
steep,

As it fitfully blows now conceals, now discloses?

Now it catches the gleam

Of the morning's first beam,

In full glory reflected now shines on the stream;

'Tis the star-spangled banner! Oh, long may it wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

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And where is that band who so vauntingly swore  
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion  
A home and a country should leave us no more?  
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps'  
pollution.

No refuge could save  
The hireling and slave  
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave;  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Oh, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand  
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!  
Blessed with victory and peace, may the heaven-  
rescued land

Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us  
a nation.

Then conquer we must,  
When our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto — "In God is our trust:"  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

—*Francis Scott Key.*

No song could have had a more inspiring source of creation than did this. Its author, Mr. Francis Scott Key, was a young lawyer who left Baltimore in September, 1814, while the war of 1812 was yet going on, and under a flag of truce visited the

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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British fleet for the purpose of obtaining the release of a friend of his, a certain Doctor Beanes, who had been captured at Marlborough. After his arrival at the fleet he was compelled to remain with it during the bombardment of Fort McHenry, as the officers were afraid to permit him to land lest he should disclose the purposes of the British. Mr. Key remained on deck all night, watching every shell from the moment it was fired until it fell, and listening with breathless interest to hear if an explosion followed. The firing suddenly ceased before day, but from the position of the ship he could not discover whether the fort had surrendered or the attack had been abandoned. He paced the deck for the remainder of the night in painful suspense, watching with intense anxiety for the return of day, and looking every few minutes at his watch to see how long he must wait for it; and as soon as it dawned, and before it was light enough to see objects at a distance, his glass was turned to the fort, uncertain whether he should see there the Stars and Stripes or the flag of the enemy. At length the light came, and he saw that "our flag was still there;" and as the day advanced he discovered from the movement of the boats between the shore and the fleet that the English troops had been defeated, and that many wounded men were being carried to the ships. At length Mr. Key was informed that the attack on Baltimore had failed, and he with his friend was

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

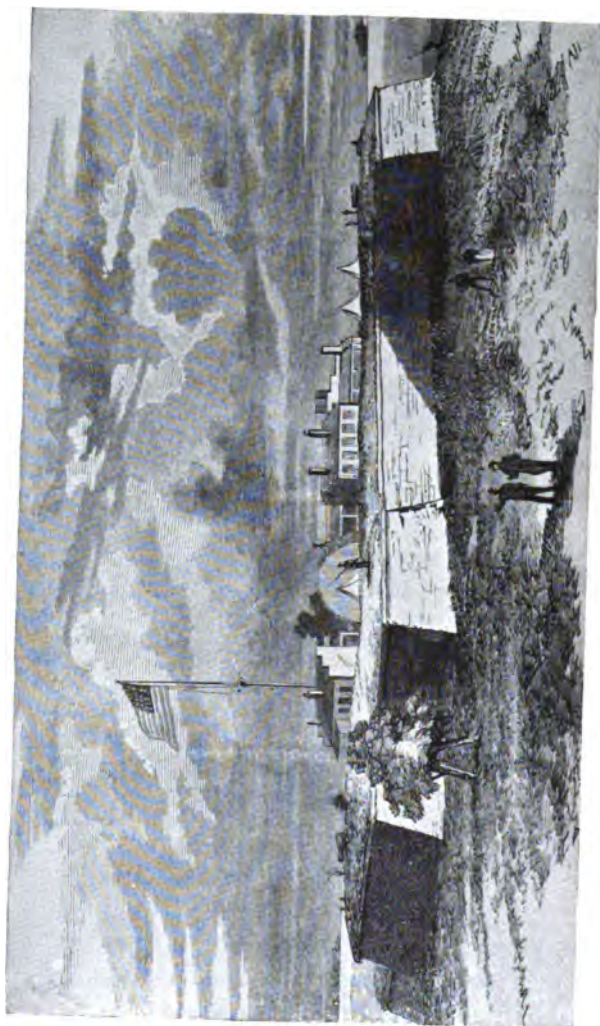
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permitted to return home, while the hostile fleet sailed away, leaving the Star-Spangled Banner still waving from Fort McHenry.

During the intense anxiety of waiting for dawn, Mr. Key had conceived the idea of the song and had written some lines, or brief notes that would aid him in calling them to mind, upon the back of a letter which he happened to have in his pocket. He finished the poem in the boat on his way to the shore, and finally corrected it, leaving it as it now stands, at the hotel, on the night he reached Baltimore, and immediately after he arrived. The next morning he took it to Judge Nicholson, the chief justice of Maryland, to ask him what he thought of it; and he was so pleased with it that he immediately sent it to the printer, Benjamin Edes, and directed copies to be struck off in handbill form. In less than an hour after it was placed in the hands of the printer it was all over the town, and hailed with enthusiasm, and at once took its place in the national songs. The first newspaper that printed it was the *American*, of Baltimore.

The tune, which has helped so much to make it famous, also had an interesting selection. Two brothers, Charles and Ferdinand Durang, were actors at the Holliday Street Theater in Baltimore, but were also soldiers. A copy of Francis Key's poem came to them in camp; it was read aloud to a company of the soldiers, among whom were the





*FORT MCHENRY*

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Durang brothers. All were inspired by the pathetic eloquence of the song and Ferdinand Durang at once put his wits to work to find a tune for it. Hunting up a volume of flute music which was in one of the tents, he impatiently whistled snatches of tune after tune, just as they caught his quick eye. One, called *Anacreon in Heaven*, struck his fancy and riveted his attention. Note after note fell from his puckered lips until, with a leap and shout, he exclaimed, "Boys, I've hit it!" And fitting the tune to the words, there rang out for the first time the song of *The Star-Spangled Banner*. How the men shouted and clapped; for there never was a wedding of poetry to music made under more inspiring influences! Getting a brief furlough, the Durang brothers sang it in public soon after. It was caught up in the camps, and sung around the bivouac fires, and whistled in the streets, and when peace was declared, and the soldiers went back to their homes, they carried this song in their hearts as the most precious souvenir of the war of 1812.

The song bears evidence of the special incident to which it owes its creation, and is not suited to all times and occasions on that account. To supply this want, additional stanzas have, from time to time, been written. Perhaps the most notable of all these is the following stanza, which was written by Oliver Wendell Holmes, at the request of a lady,

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during our civil war, there being no verse alluding to treasonable attempts against the flag. It was originally printed in the Boston *Evening Transcript*.

“ When our land is illumined with liberty’s smile,  
If a foe from within strike a blow at her glory,  
Down, down with the traitor who dares to defile  
The flag of her stars and the page of her story!  
By the millions unchained  
Who their birthright have gained  
We will keep her bright blazon forever unstained;  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall  
wave  
While the land of the free is the home of the  
brave.”

The air selected under such interesting circumstances as we have described—*Anacreon in Heaven*,—is that of an old English song. In the second half of the eighteenth century a jovial society, called the “Anacreontic,” held its festive and musical meetings at the “Crown and Anchor” in the Strand. It is now the “Whittington Club;” but in the last century it was frequented by Doctor Johnson, Boswell, Sir Joshua Reynolds and others. One Ralph Tomlinson, Esq., was at that time president of the Anacreontic Society, and wrote the words of the song adopted by the club, and John Stafford Smith set them to music, it is claimed to an old French air. The song was published by the



## **Immortal Songs of Camp and Field**

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composer, and was sold at his house, 7 Warwick Street, Spring Garden, London, between the years 1770-75. Thus the source of the music so long identified with this inspiring song is swallowed up in the mystery of the name of Smith.

The flag of Fort McHenry, which inspired the song, still exists in a fair state of preservation. It is at this time thirty-two feet long and of twenty-nine feet hoist. In its original dimensions it was probably forty feet long; the shells of the enemy, and the work of curiosity hunters, have combined to decrease its length. Its great width is due to its having fifteen instead of thirteen stripes, each nearly two feet wide. It has, or rather had, fifteen five-pointed stars, each two feet from point to point, and arranged in five indented parallel lines, three stars in each horizontal line. The Union rests in the ninth, which is a red stripe, instead of the eighth, a white stripe, as in our present flag. There can be no doubt as to the authenticity of this flag. It was preserved by Colonel Armstead, and bears upon its stripes, in his autograph, his name and the date of the bombardment. It has always remained in his family and in 1861 his widow bequeathed it to their youngest daughter, Mrs. William Stuart Appleton, who, some time after the bombardment, was born in Fort McHenry under its folds. She was named Georgiana Armstead for her father, and the precious flag was hoisted on its staff in honor of her

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birth. Mrs. Appleton died in New York, July 25, 1878, and bequeathed the flag to her son, Mr. Eben Appleton, of Yonkers, New York, who now holds it.

*The Star-Spangled Banner* has come out of the Spanish War baptized with imperishable glory. Throughout the war it has been above all others, in camp or on the battlefield, the song that has aroused the highest enthusiasm. During the bombardment of Manila the band on a British cruiser, lying near the American fleet, played *The Star-Spangled Banner*, thus showing in an unmistakable way their sympathy with the American cause. In the trenches before Santiago it was sung again and again by our soldiers and helped, more than anything else, to inspire them to deeds of heroic valor. Once when the army moved forward in the charge, the man who played the E-flat horn in the band left his place and rushed forward with the soldiers in the attacking column. Of course the band's place is in the rear. But this man, unmindful of everything, broke away and went far up the hill with the charge, carrying his horn over his shoulder, slung with a strap. For a time he went along unobserved, until one of the officers happened to see him. And he said to him, "What are you doing here? You can't do anything; you can't fight; you haven't any gun or sword. This is no place for you. Get down behind that rock." The soldier fell back for a minute, half dazed, and

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feeling the pull of the strap on his shoulder cried out in agony: "I can't do anything, I can't fight." And so he got down behind the rock. But almost instantly he raised his horn and began to play *The Star-Spangled Banner*. They heard him down in the valley, and immediately the band took it up, and in the midst of those inspiring strains the army charged to victory.









*JOSEPH HOPKINSON*

### *HAIL COLUMBIA.*

Hail, Columbia! happy land!  
Hail, ye heroes! heaven-born band!  
    Who fought and bled in Freedom's cause,  
    Who fought and bled in Freedom's cause,  
And when the storm of war was gone,  
Enjoy'd the peace your valor won.  
    Let independence be our boast,  
    Ever mindful what it cost;  
    Ever grateful for the prize,  
    Let its altars reach the skies.  
        Firm, united, let us be,  
        Rallying round our Liberty;  
        As a band of brothers join'd,  
        Peace and safety we shall find.

Immortal patriots! rise once more:  
Defend your rights, defend your shore:  
    Let no rude foe, with impious hand,  
    Let no rude foe, with impious hand,  
Invade the shrine where sacred lies  
Of toil and blood the well-earn'd prize.  
    While offering peace sincere and just,  
    In Heaven we place a manly trust,  
    That truth and justice will prevail,  
    And every scheme of bondage fail.

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Sound, sound, the trump of Fame!  
Let WASHINGTON'S great name  
    Ring through the world with loud applause,  
    Ring through the world with loud applause;  
Let every clime to Freedom dear,  
Listen with a joyful ear.  
    With equal skill, and Godlike power,  
    He govern'd in the fearful hour  
    Of horrid war; or guides with ease,  
    The happier times of honest peace.

Behold the chief who now commands,  
Once more to serve his country stands,  
    The rock on which the storm will beat;  
    The rock on which the storm will beat.  
But, arm'd in virtue firm and true,  
His hopes are fix'd on Heaven and you.  
    When hope was sinking in dismay,  
    And glooms obscured Columbia's day,  
    His steady mind, from changes free,  
    Resolved on death or liberty.

—*Joseph Hopkinson.*

Joseph Hopkinson, like Francis Scott Key, the author of *The Star-Spangled Banner*, was also a lawyer. He commenced the practice of law in Easton, Pennsylvania, but soon removed to Philadelphia, where he acquired high distinction at the bar. He was four years a member of Congress, and was



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afterward appointed judge of the United States District Court, an office held by his grandfather under the British Crown before the Revolutionary War, and to which his father had been chosen on the organization of the United States Judiciary in 1789. He retained this office until his death in 1842.

Mr. Hopkinson was still a young man, only twenty-eight years of age, when he wrote the song which will make his name honored as long as American liberty is remembered. It was in the summer of 1798, when a war with France was thought to be inevitable. Congress was in session in Philadelphia, discussing the advisability of a declaration of war, and many acts of hostility had actually occurred. England and France were at war already, and the people of the United States were divided into factions for the one side or the other. One party argued that policy and duty required Americans to take part with republican France; the other section urged the wisdom of connecting ourselves with England, under the belief that she was the great conservator of modern civilization, and that her triumph meant the rule of good principles and safe government. Both belligerents had been careless of our rights, and seemed to be forcing us from the just and wise policy of Washington, which was to maintain a strict and impartial neutrality between them. The prospect of a rupture with France was exceedingly offensive to that portion of

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the people who hoped for her success, and the violence of party spirit ran to the highest extreme.

Just at this time a young singer who was very popular in Philadelphia was to be given a benefit at one of the theaters. This young man was a school friend of Joseph Hopkinson. They had kept up their acquaintance after their school-days had passed, and one Saturday afternoon he called on Hopkinson to talk over with him his benefit which was announced for the following Monday. He said he had every prospect of suffering a loss instead of receiving a benefit from the performance; but that if he could get a patriotic song adapted to the tune of the *President's March*, then the popular air, he would no doubt have a full house. The poor fellow was almost in despair about it, as the poets of the theatrical corps had been trying to accomplish it, and had come to the conclusion that no words could be composed to suit the music of that march. The young lawyer told his friend that he would try what he could do for him. He came the next afternoon, and the song, *Hail Columbia*, was ready for him. It was announced on Monday morning, and the theater was crowded to overflowing, and so continued, night after night, for the rest of the season. The excitement about it grew so great that the song was not only encored but had to be repeated many times each night, the audience joining in the chorus. It was also sung at night in the





*THE CAPITOL*

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streets by large crowds of citizens, which often included members of Congress and other distinguished public officials. The enthusiasm spread to other cities and the song was caught up and reëchoed at all kinds of public gatherings throughout the United States.

The object of Mr. Hopkinson in writing the song, in addition to doing a kind deed for his friend and schoolmate, was to arouse an American spirit which should be independent of and above the interests, passions, and policy of both belligerents, and look and feel exclusively for our own honor and rights. For this reason no allusion was made to France or England, or to the war which was raging between them, or to our indignation as to their treatment of us. It was this prudence which gave the song its universal popularity. It found equal favor with both parties, for neither could disown the loyal sentiments it inculcated. It was so purely American, and nothing else, that the patriotic feelings of every American heart responded to it.

The *President's March*, for which the poem was specially written and to which it was easily adapted, was composed in honor of President Washington, who then resided at 190 High Street, Philadelphia. The composer of the popular air was Philip Roth, a teacher of music. Not a great deal is left on record about him, but it is declared that he was a very eccentric character, familiarly known

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as "Old Roat." It is also said that he took snuff immoderately. A claim has been set up for Professor Phyla, of Philadelphia, but the evidence favors Roth.

During the centennial year an autograph copy of *Hail Columbia* was displayed in the museum at Independence Hall, Philadelphia. This copy was written from memory, February 22, 1828, and presented to George M. Kein, Esq., of Reading, in compliance with a request made by him. This interesting manuscript has marginal notes, one of which informs us that the lines:—

" Behold the chief who now commands,  
Once more to serve his country stands,  
The rock on which the storm will beat;  
The rock on which the storm will beat.  
But, arm'd in virtue firm and true,  
His hopes are fix'd on Heaven and you.  
When hope was sinking in dismay,  
And glooms obscured Columbia's day,  
His steady mind, from changes free,  
Resolved on death or liberty,"

refer to John Adams, who was President of the United States at the time *Hail Columbia* was written. Mr. Hopkinson also presented General Washington with an autograph copy of his poem, and received from him a complimentary letter of thanks, which is now in possession of his descendants.





*THOMAS À BECKET*



*COLUMBIA, THE GEM OF THE OCEAN.*

O Columbia! the gem of the ocean,  
The home of the brave and the free;  
The shrine of each patriot's devotion,  
A world offers homage to thee.  
Thy mandates make heroes assemble  
When Liberty's form stands in view,  
Thy banners make tyranny tremble  
When borne by the red, white, and blue,  
    When borne by the red, white, and blue,  
    When borne by the red, white, and blue,  
        Thy banners make tyranny tremble  
        When borne by the red, white, and blue.

When war winged its wide desolation,  
And threaten'd the land to deform;  
The ark then of Freedom's foundation,  
Columbia, rode safe through the storm:  
With her garlands of vict'ry around her,  
When so proudly she bore her brave crew,  
With her flag proudly floating before her,  
The boast of the red, white, and blue,  
    The boast of the red, white, and blue,  
    The boast of the red, white, and blue,  
        With her flag proudly floating before her,  
        The boast of the red, white, and blue.

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The winecup, the winecup bring hither,  
And fill you it true to the brim;  
May the wreaths they have won never wither  
Nor the star of their glory grow dim.  
May the service united ne'er sever,  
But they to their colors prove true,  
The Army and Navy forever,  
Three cheers for the red, white, and blue,  
Three cheers for the red, white, and blue,  
Three cheers for the red, white, and blue,  
The Army and Navy forever,  
Three cheers for the red, white, and blue.

—*Thomas à Becket.*

This splendid song, as popular, perhaps, as any of America's patriotic hymns, was written in 1843 by a young actor named Thomas à Becket. He was engaged at that time at the Chestnut Street Theater, in Philadelphia. He was waited upon by a Mr. D. T. Shaw, an acquaintance, who was also an actor, with the request that he would write him a song for his benefit night. Mr. Shaw had been trying to write one for himself, but had made a sad failure of it. He produced some patriotic lines, and asked Mr. À Becket's opinion on them; he found them ungrammatical and so deficient in measure as to be totally unfit to be set to music. They went to the house of a mutual friend, and there À Becket wrote the two first verses in pencil, and sitting





*STATUE OF LIBERTY*

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down at a piano in the room of the friend's house, he composed the melody. On reaching home that evening he added the third verse, wrote the symphonies and arrangements, made a fair copy in ink, and gave it to Mr. Shaw, requesting him not to give or sell a copy to any one.

A few weeks afterward Mr. À Becket left for New Orleans, and a little while later was greatly astonished to see a published copy of his song entitled, "*Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean*, written, composed, and sung by David T. Shaw, and arranged by T. à Becket, Esq." On his return to Philadelphia he sought out Mr. Willig, the publisher, who told him he had purchased the song from Mr. Shaw. Mr. À Becket produced the original copy in pencil, and claimed the copyright, which Mr. Willig admitted, making some severe remarks upon Shaw's conduct in the affair. A week later it appeared under its proper title, "*Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean*, written and composed by T. à Becket, and sung by D. T. Shaw." The song has been often printed under the title *The Red, White, and Blue*, and is very familiarly known as "The Army and Navy Song," from being peculiarly adapted to reunions of the two wings of the military department of the government.

Mr. E. L. Davenport, an eminent actor, sung the song nightly in London for many weeks, where it became very popular. It was printed there under

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the title *Britannia, the Pride of the Ocean*. On this account some people have supposed the English version to be the original, and ours merely an adaptation of it. That part of its title, "The Gem of the Ocean," belongs to the Emerald Isle, rather than to Columbia, and seems more appropriate to designate an island power like Great Britain than a continental power like the United States. However, it is beginning to look as though we might have islands of our own in abundance.

While red, white, and blue have for a long time been the ranking order of the colors of British national ensigns, with us *blue* — the blue of the union, the firmament of our constellation of stars — claims the first place on our colors, red the second, and white the third; so that for us the song should read,—

"When borne by the blue, red, and white,"

instead of,—

"When borne by the red, white, and blue."

These lapses are explained by the fact that the author was an Englishman by birth, and it was very natural that he should make them. Though written by a native-born Englishman, the song was thoroughly American in its inception and origin. In the English version, already referred to, the first line is altered to read,—

"Britannia, the pride of the ocean."

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In these days of kindly fellowship with England, Americans are perfectly willing to share their song of "red, white, and blue" with their cousins across the water.











*GEORGE POPE MORRIS*

### *THE FLAG OF OUR UNION.*

A song for our banner, the watchword recall  
Which gave the Republic her station :  
“ United we stand — divided we fall ! ”  
It made and preserves us a nation.  
The union of lakes, the union of lands,  
The union of States none can sever !  
The union of hearts, the union of hands,  
And the Flag of our Union forever and ever,  
The Flag of our Union forever !

What God in his infinite wisdom designed,  
And armed with republican thunder,  
Not all the earth's despots and factions combined  
Have the power to conquer or sunder.  
The union of lakes, the union of lands,  
The union of States none can sever !  
The union of hearts, the union of hands,  
And the Flag of our Union forever and ever,  
The Flag of our Union forever !

Oh, keep that flag flying ! The pride of the van !  
To all other nations display it !  
The ladies for union are to a — man !  
And not to the man who'd betray it.  
Then the union of lakes, the union of lands,  
The union of States none can sever !

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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The union of hearts, the union of hands,  
And the Flag of the Union forever!

—George P. Morris.

The author of *The Flag of our Union* was one of the most distinguished journalists of the early half of the nineteenth century in America. He was for many years the editor of the *Mirror*, which was in its time the best literary magazine in the country. Such men as William Cullen Bryant, Fitz-Green Halleck, Nathaniel P. Willis, Theodore S. Fay, and Epes Sargent found in its pages a chance to express the poetry, romance, and philosophy which flowed from their brilliant and graceful pens.

Morris was the author of many songs and poems that have become household words throughout the land. Who does not recall,—

“ Woodman, spare that tree!  
Touch not a single bough!  
In youth it sheltered me,  
And I'll protect it now.  
'Twas my forefather's hand  
That placed it near his cot:  
There, woodman, let it stand,  
Thy ax shall harm it not! ”

And these other lines from *My Mother's Bible*,  
equally well known,—





WEST POINT MILITARY ACADEMY  
(N. E. corner of cadets' barracks)

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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" This book is all that's left me now: —  
Tears will unbidden start —  
With faltering lip and throbbing brow,  
I press it to my heart.  
For many generations past  
Here is our family tree:  
My mother's hand this Bible clasped;  
She, dying, gave it me."

And what schoolboy of twenty-five years ago does not remember the song of *The Whip-poor-will*, the first verses of which always aroused his sympathetic interest? —

" Why dost thou come at set of sun,  
Those pensive words to say?  
Why whip poor Will? — what has he done —  
And who is Will, I pray?

" Why come from yon leaf-shaded hill  
A suppliant at my door? —  
Why ask of me to whip poor Will?  
And is Will really poor? "

Morris had traveled abroad rather widely for that day, but instead of its weaning him from his native land, it made it all the more dear to him. He set this forth in a well-known song entitled, *I'm with You once Again*, which so accurately voices the feelings of thousands of loyal American travelers that it is worth repeating here:—

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“ I’m with you once again, my friends,  
No more my footsteps roam;  
Where it began my journey ends,  
Amid the scenes of home.  
No other clime has skies so blue,  
Or streams so broad and clear,  
And where are hearts so warm and true  
As those that meet me here?

“ Since last, with spirits wild and free,  
I pressed my native strand,  
I’ve wandered many miles at sea,  
And many miles on land;  
I’ve seen fair realms of the earth,  
By rude commotion torn,  
Which taught me how to prize the worth  
Of that where I was born.

“ In other countries when I heard  
The language of my own,  
How fondly each familiar word  
Awoke an answering tone!  
But when our woodland songs were sung  
Upon a foreign mart,  
The vows that faltered on the tongue  
With rapture thrilled the heart.

“ My native land! I turn to you  
With blessing and with prayer,  
Where man is brave, and woman true  
And free as mountain air.



## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Long may our flag in triumph wave,  
Against the world combined,  
And friends a welcome — foes a grave,  
Within our borders find."

In this song we see the spirit in which was written *The Flag of our Union*. Ten years before the War of the Rebellion, when the mutterings of the coming storm were already in the air, this poet and traveler, who had found his country's flag such an inspiration when roving in foreign lands, poured out his heart in this hymn to the Flag. It was set to music by William Vincent Wallace, and was very popular in war times. It is worthy of popularity so long as the Flag of the Union shall wave.









*JOHN BROWN*

### *JOHN BROWN'S BODY.*

John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave!  
John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave!  
John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave!

His soul is marching on.

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

His soul is marching on.

The stars of heaven are looking kindly down!  
The stars of heaven are looking kindly down!  
The stars of heaven are looking kindly down!

On the grave of old John Brown!

He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord!  
He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord!  
He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord!

His soul is marching on.

John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back!  
John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back!  
John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back!

His soul is marching on.

—*Charles S. Hall.*

No prophet is ever able to foretell what will catch  
the popular ear. The original John Brown song,

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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written by Miss Edna Dean Proctor, is certainly far more coherent and intelligible than the lines which have formed the marching song for over a million men, and have held their own through a generation. It is well worth repeating here: —

“John Brown died on the scaffold for the slave;  
Dark was the hour when we dug his hallowed grave;  
Now God avenges the life he gladly gave,  
Freedom reigns to-day!  
Glory, glory hallelujah,  
Glory, glory hallelujah,  
Glory, glory hallelujah.  
Freedom reigns to-day!

“John Brown sowed and the harvesters are we;  
Honor to him who has made the bondsman free;  
Loved evermore shall our noble ruler be,  
Freedom reigns to-day!

“John Brown’s body lies mouldering in the grave;  
Bright o’er the sod let the starry banner wave;  
Lo! for the million he periled all to save,  
Freedom reigns to-day!

“John Brown’s soul through the world is marching on;  
Hail to the hour when oppression shall be gone;  
All men will sing in the better day’s dawn,  
Freedom reigns to-day!

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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“ John Brown dwells where the battle’s strife is o’er;  
Hate cannot harm him, nor sorrow stir him more;  
Earth will remember the martyrdom he bore,  
Freedom reigns to-day!

“ John Brown’s body lies mouldering in the grave;  
John Brown lives in the triumph of the brave;  
John Brown’s soul not a higher joy can crave,  
Freedom reigns to-day! ”

The more popular, if not more worthy, song of John Brown’s Body seems to have been of Massachusetts origin at the commencement of the Civil War. It was first sung in 1861. When the Massachusetts Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Fletcher Webster, a son of the famous Daniel Webster, were camped on one of the islands in Boston Harbor, some of the soldiers amused themselves by adapting the words,—

“ John Brown’s body lies a-mouldering in the grave,  
His soul is marching on.  
Glory, glory hallelujah,  
His soul is marching on,”

to a certain air. Mr. Charles Sprague Hall, who is the author of the lines as finally sung, says that when the soldiers first began to sing it the first verse was the only one known. He wrote the other verses, but did not know where the first one came from.

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The way was opened for this song through a campaign song heard from the lips of the Douglas, and the Bell, and the Everett Campaign Clubs, who, in order to spite Governor John A. Andrew, the famous war governor of Massachusetts, sang the following lines as they were marching through the streets of Boston, with their torches in hand,—

“ Tell John Andrew,  
Tell John Andrew,  
Tell John Andrew  
John Brown's dead.  
Salt won't save him,  
John Brown's dead.”

These lines are supposed to have been an imitation of the doggerel,—

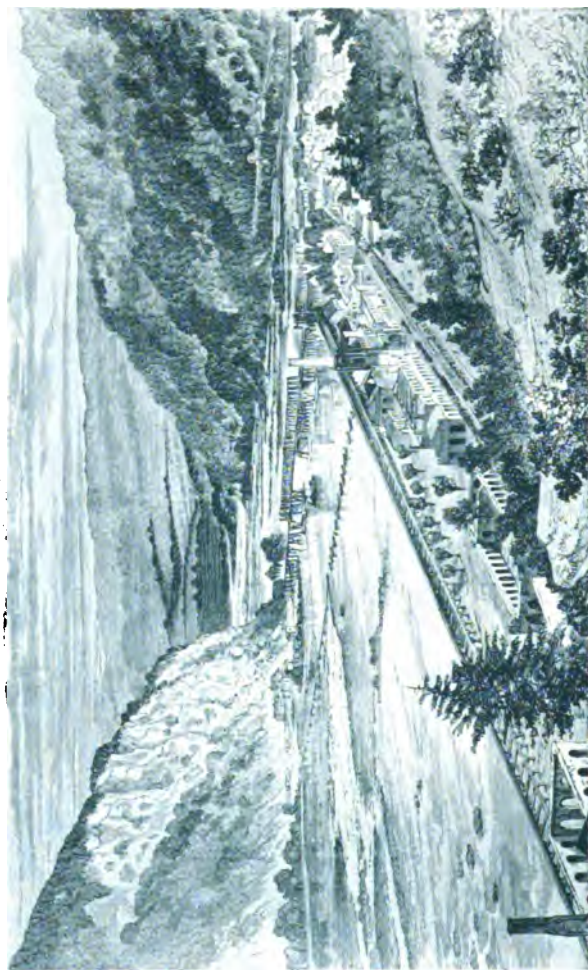
“ Tell Aunt Rhody,  
Tell Aunt Rhody,  
Tell Aunt Rhody  
The old goose is dead.  
Salt won't save him,  
The old goose is dead.”

Great stress having been laid by the opponents of Governor Andrew upon the fact that John Brown was dead, the authors of the song spoken of took good care to assert that, while

“ John Brown's body lies a-mouldering in the grave,  
His soul is marching on.”







*HARPER'S FERRY*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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This was the answer of those that sympathized with John Brown, a song which they flung at those who seemed to take delight in the fact that he was dead.

Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, heard the melody, which is perhaps the most popular martial melody in America, in a colored Presbyterian church in Charleston, South Carolina, about 1859, and soon after introduced it at a convention of the Young Men's Christian Association in Albany, New York, with the words,—

“ Say, brothers will you meet us,  
Say, brothers will you meet us,  
Say, brothers will you meet us,  
On Canaan's happy shore?  
By the grace of God we'll meet you,  
By the grace of God we'll meet you,  
By the grace of God we'll meet you,  
Where parting is no more.”

Professor James E. Greenleaf, organist of the Harvard Church in Charlestown, found the music in the archives of that church, and fitted it to the first stanza of the present song. It has since been claimed that the Millerites, in 1843, used the same tune to a hymn, one verse of which is as follows,—

“ We'll see the angels coming  
Through the old churchyards,  
Shouting through the air  
Glory, glory hallelujah!”

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Whatever may have been the origin of the melody, when fitted by Greenleaf to the first stanza of *John Brown's Body*, it became so great a favorite with the Glee Club of the Boston Light Infantry that they asked Mr. Hall to write the additional stanzas.

As has been the case with popular tunes in every age, verses have been often added to it to meet the occasion. While the words are not of a classical order, the air is of that popular kind which strikes the heart of the average man. During the Civil War it served to cheer and inspire the Union soldiers in their camps and on the march, and was sung at home at every popular gathering in town or country. It seemed to be just what the soldiers needed at the time, and served its purpose far better than would choicer words or more artistic music. No song during all the war fired the popular heart as did *John Brown's Body*. It crossed the sea and became the popular street song in London. The *Pall Mall Gazette* of October 14, 1865, said: "The street boys of London have decided in favor of *John Brown's Body*, against *My Maryland*, and *The Bonnie Blue Flag*. The somewhat lugubrious refrain has excited their admiration to a wonderful degree, and threatens to extinguish that hard-worked, exquisite effort of modern minstrelsy, *Slap Bang*."

After the original song had gained world-wide notoriety, the following words were written by

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Henry Howard Brownell, who died at Hartford, Connecticut, October 31, 1872, aged fifty-two. Mr. Brownell entitled his poem, "Words that can be sung to the *Hallelujah Chorus*," and says: "If people will sing about Old John Brown, there is no reason why they shouldn't have words with a little meaning and rhythm in them."

"Old John Brown lies a-mouldering in the grave,  
Old John Brown lies slumbering in his grave —  
But John Brown's soul is marching with the brave,  
His soul is marching on.  
Glory, glory hallelujah!  
Glory, glory hallelujah!  
Glory, glory hallelujah!  
His soul is marching on.

"He has gone to be a soldier in the Army of the  
Lord,  
He is sworn as a private in the ranks of the Lord —  
He shall stand at Armageddon, with his brave  
old sword,  
When Heaven is marching on.

"He shall file in front where the lines of battle  
form —  
He shall face the front where the squares of battle  
form —  
Time with the column and charge with the storm,  
Where men are marching on.

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" Ah, foul tyrants! do you hear him where he comes?

Ah, black traitors! do you know him as he comes?  
In thunder of the cannon and roll of the drums,  
As we go marching on.

" Men may die, and moulder in the dust —  
Men may die, and arise again from dust,  
Shoulder to shoulder, in the ranks of the just,  
When Heaven is marching on."

But Mr. Brownell has shared the same fate with Miss Proctor, and his song and hers are only curiosities to-day, which show how arbitrary the popular will is when once the heart or the imagination is really captured. Mr. Richard Henry Dana, Jr., writing to Mr. James T. Fields, the famous Boston litterateur, said: " It would have been past belief had we been told that the almost undistinguishable name of John Brown should be whispered among four millions of slaves, and sung wherever the English language is spoken, and incorporated into an anthem to whose solemn cadences men should march to battle by the tens of thousands."







*DANIEL DECATUR EMMETT*



### *DIXIE.*

I wish I was in de land ob cotton,  
Old times dar am not forgotten,  
    Look away! Look away! Look away!  
In Dixie Land where I was born in,  
Early on a frosty mornin,  
    Look away! Look away! Look away!  
    Den I wish I was in Dixie,  
        Hooray! Hooray!  
    In Dixie Land, I'll take my stand,  
    To lib and die in Dixie,  
        Away! Away!  
    Away down south in Dixie.

Old Missus marry "Will-de-weaber,"  
Willium was a gay deceaber;  
    Look away! Look away! Look away.  
But when he put his arm around 'er,  
He smiled as fierce as a forty pounder,  
    Look away! Look away! Look away!

His face was as sharp as a butcher's cleaber,  
But dat did not seem to greab 'er;  
    Look away! Look away! Look away!  
Old Missus acted de foolish part,  
And died for a man dat broke her heart.  
    Look away! Look away! Look away!

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Now here's a health to de next old Missus,  
And all de gals dat want to kiss us;  
Look away! Look away! Look away!  
But if you want to drive 'way sorrow,  
Come and hear dis song tomorrow,  
Look away! Look away! Look away!

Dar's buckwheat cakes an' Injen batter,  
Makes you fat or a little fatter;  
Look away! Look away! Look away!  
Den hoe it down and scratch your grabble,  
To Dixie's Land I'm bound to trabble,  
Look away! Look away! Look away!

—*Dan Emmett.*

Dan Emmett, who wrote the original *Dixie*, which has been paraphrased and changed and adapted nearly as frequently as *Yankee Doodle* was born at Mount Vernon, Ohio, in 1815. He came from a family all of whose members had a local reputation, still traditional in that part of the country, as musicians. In his own case this talent, if given a fair chance for development, would have amounted to genius. He began life as a printer, but soon abandoned his trade to join the band of musicians connected with a circus company. He was not long in discovering that he could compose songs of the kind in use by clowns; one of the most popular of these was *Old Dan Tucker*. Its success was so





*PICKING COTTON*

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great that Emmett followed it with many others. They were all negro melodies, and many of them won great popularity. Finally he took to negro impersonations, singing his own songs in the ring, while he accompanied himself on the banjo. He made a specialty of old men, and he declares with pride that when he had blackened his face, and donned his wig of kinky white hair, he was "the best old negro that ever lived." He became such a favorite with the patrons of the circus in the South and West, that at last — partly by chance, and partly through intention — he became a full-fledged actor. This was in 1842, at the old Chatham Theater in New York City, when with two companions he gave a mixed performance, made up largely of songs and dances typical of slave life and character. The little troupe was billed as "The Virginia Minstrels," and their popularity with the public was instantaneous.

This was the beginning of negro minstrelsy, which was destined to have such a wide popularity in America. From New York the pioneer company went to Boston, and later on sailed for England, leaving the newly-discovered field to the host of imitators who were rapidly dividing their success with them. Emmett had great success in the British Isles, and remained abroad for several years. When he returned to New York, he joined the Dan Bryant Minstrel Company, which then held sway

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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in Bryant's Theater on lower Broadway, which was at that time one of the most popular resorts in New York City. Emmett was engaged to write songs and walk-arounds and take part in the nightly performances. It was while he was with Bryant that *Dixie* was composed.

Emmett is still living and resides at Mount Vernon, Ohio, where he hopes to end his days. The old man is a picturesque figure on the streets. In his prime he was one of the mid-century dandies of New York City, but now, with calm indifference to the conventional, he usually carries a long staff and wears his coat fastened in at the waist by a bit of rope. His home is a little cottage on the edge of town, where he lives entirely alone. On almost any warm afternoon he can be found seated before his door reading, but he is ready enough to talk with the chance visitor whose curiosity to meet the composer of one of the National Songs of America, has brought him thither. A newspaper man who recently went to talk with the old minstrel found him seated in the shade by his house with a book open before him. As he went up the path, he said, for he had some doubt in his own mind,—

“Are you Dan Emmett, who wrote *Dixie*?”

“Well, I have heard of the fellow; sit down,” and Emmett motioned to the steps.

“Won't you tell me how the song was written?”

“Like most everything else I ever did,” said

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Emmett, "it was written because it had to be done. One Saturday night, in 1859, as I was leaving Bryant's Theater, where I was playing, Bryant called after me, 'I want a walk-'round for Monday, Dan.'

"The next day it rained and I stayed indoors. At first when I went at the song I couldn't get anything. But a line,

'I wish I was in Dixie,'

kept repeating itself in my mind, and I finally took it for my start. The rest wasn't long in coming. And that's the story of how *Dixie* was written.

"It made a hit at once, and before the end of the week everybody in New York was whistling it. Then the South took it up and claimed it for its own. I sold the copyright for five hundred dollars, which was all I ever made from it. I'll show you my first copy."

He went into the house and returned in a moment with a yellow, worn-looking manuscript in his hand.

"That's *Dixie*," he said, holding it up for inspection. "I am going to give it to some historical society in the South, one of these days, for though I was born here in Ohio, I count myself a Southerner, as my father was a Virginian."

*Dixie Land* was without question the most famous of all the Southern war songs. But it was the tune, as in the case of *Yankee Doodle*, and not the words that gave it its great power to fire the heart. It is

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claimed that Emmett appropriated the tune from an old negro air, which is quite probable.

The only poem set to the famous air of *Dixie* which has any literary merit is one that was written by General Albert Pike. Some one has said that it is worthy of notice that the finest Puritan lyric we have was written by an Englishwoman, Mrs. Felicia Hemans, and the most popular Southern war song was written by a Yankee, a native of Massachusetts. Albert Pike was born in Boston, December 29, 1809, but most of his boyhood was spent in Newburyport. He became a teacher, but in 1831 visited what was then the wild region of the Southwest with a party of trappers. He afterward edited a paper at Little Rock, and studied law. He served in the Mexican War with distinction, and on the breaking out of the Rebellion enlisted, on the Confederate side, a force of Cherokee Indians, whom he led at the battle of Pea Ridge. After the war he edited the *Memphis Appeal* till 1868, when he settled in Washington as a lawyer. He has written a number of fine poems, and retired from the profession of law in 1880, to devote himself to literature and Freemasonry. Mr. Pike's version of *Dixie* is as follows,—

“ Southrons, hear your Country call you!  
Up, lest worse than death befall you!  
To arms! To arms! To arms, in Dixie!







*ALBERT PIKE*

## **Immortal Songs of Camp and Field**

---

Lo! all the beacon fires are lighted —  
Let all hearts be now united!

To arms! To arms! To arms, in Dixie!  
Advance the flag of Dixie!

Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Dixie's land we take our stand,  
And live or die for Dixie!

To arms! To arms!  
And conquer peace for Dixie!  
To arms! To arms!  
And conquer peace for Dixie!

“ Hear the Northern thunders mutter!  
Northern flags in South winds flutter!

To arms!  
Send them back your fierce defiance!  
Stamp upon the accursed alliance!

To arms!  
Advance the flag of Dixie!

“ Fear no danger! Shun no labor!  
Lift up rifle, pike, and sabre!

To arms!  
Shoulder pressing close to shoulder,  
Let the odds make each heart bolder!

To arms!  
Advance the flag of Dixie!

“ How the South's great heart rejoices,  
At your cannons' ringing voices!

To arms!

## **Immortal Songs of Camp and Field**

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For faith betrayed, and pledges broken,  
Wrongs inflicted, insults spoken,  
To arms!  
Advance the flag of Dixie!

“Strong as lions, swift as eagles,  
Back to their kennels hunt these beagles!  
To arms!  
Cut the unequal bonds asunder!  
Let them hence each other plunder!  
To arms!  
Advance the flag of Dixie!

“Swear upon your country’s altar  
Never to submit or falter!  
To arms!  
Till the spoilers are defeated,  
Till the Lord’s work is completed.  
To arms!  
Advance the flag of Dixie!

“Halt not till our Federation  
Secures from earth’s powers its station!  
To arms!  
Then at peace, and crowned with glory,  
Hear your children tell the story!  
To arms!  
Advance the flag of Dixie!

“If the loved ones weep in sadness,  
Victory soon will bring them gladness.  
To arms!

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Exultant pride soon vanish sorrow;  
Smiles chase tears away tomorrow.  
To arms! To arms! To arms, in Dixie!  
Advance the flag of Dixie!  
Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For Dixie's land we take our stand,  
And live or die for Dixie!  
To arms! To arms!  
And conquer peace for Dixie!  
To arms! To arms!  
And conquer peace for Dixie!"

Since the war *Dixie* has been as favorite a tune with bands of music throughout the North as has *Yankee Doodle*. Abraham Lincoln set the example for this. A war correspondent recalls an incident which occurred only a night or two before Mr. Lincoln was assassinated. The President had returned from Richmond, and a crowd called with a band to tender congratulations and a serenade. The great man who was so soon to be the victim of the assassin's bullet appeared in response to calls and thanked his audience for the compliment. Several members of his Cabinet surrounded him, and it was a very interesting and dramatic occasion. Just as he was closing his brief remarks, Mr. Lincoln said: "I see you have a band with you. I should like to hear it play *Dixie*. I have consulted the Attorney-General, who is here by my side, and he is of the opinion that *Dixie* belongs to us. Now play it."

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The band struck up the old tune, and played it heartily. As the strains of the music rang out upon the air, cheer after cheer went up from the throats of the hundreds of happy men who had called to congratulate Mr. Lincoln upon the return of peace. It was that great soul's olive branch which he held out to the South.







*ABRAHAM LINCOLN*



*THE BATTLE CRY OF FREEDOM.*

Yes, we'll rally round the flag, boys, we'll rally once  
again,

Shouting the battle cry of Freedom,  
We'll rally from the hillside, we'll gather from the  
plain,

Shouting the battle cry of Freedom!  
The Union forever, hurrah! boys, hurrah!  
Down with the traitor, up with the star,  
While we rally round the flag, boys, rally once  
again,  
Shouting the battle cry of Freedom!

We are springing to the call of our brothers gone  
before,

Shouting the battle cry of Freedom;  
And we'll fill the vacant ranks with a million free-  
men more,  
Shouting the battle cry of Freedom!

We will welcome to our numbers the loyal, true, and  
brave,

Shouting the battle cry of Freedom;  
And although they may be poor, not a man shall be  
a slave,  
Shouting the battle cry of Freedom!

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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So we're springing to the call from the East and  
from the West,  
Shouting the battle cry of Freedom;  
And we'll hurl the rebel crew from the land we love  
the best,  
Shouting the battle cry of Freedom!

—George F. Root.

This inspiring rallying song was written by George F. Root, to whom we are indebted for so many songs of camp and field. Mr. Root also composed the music. Perhaps no hymn of battle in America has been sung under so many interesting circumstances as this. It was written in 1861, on President Lincoln's second call for troops, and was first sung at a popular meeting in Chicago and next at a great mass meeting in Union Square, New York, where those famous singers, the Hutchinson Family, sounded it forth like a trump of jubilee to the ears of thousands of loyal listeners.

It was always a great favorite with the soldiers. Dr. Jesse Bowman Young, of St. Louis, the author of *What a Boy Saw in the Army*, relates a very affecting and pathetic incident which occurred while a portion of the Army of the Potomac was marching across Maryland. A young officer and his company were in the lead, and just behind them came one of the regimental bands, while ahead of them rode General Humphreys and his staff. As the division

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marched along, they passed by a country school-house in a little grove at a crossroad. The teacher, hearing the music of the band at a distance, and expecting the arrival of the troops, had dismissed the school to give them a sight of the soldiers. Before the troops came in sight the boys and girls had gathered bunches of wild flowers, platted garlands of leaves, and secured several tiny flags, and as General Humphreys rode up in front of the school-house, a little girl came forth and presented him with a bouquet, which he acknowledged with gracious courtesy. Then the group of assembled pupils began to sing, as they waved their flags and garlands in the air. That song made a tumult in every soldier's heart. Many strong men wept as they looked on the scene and thought of their own loved ones far away in their Northern homes, and were inspired with newborn courage and patriotism by the sight and the song. This is the chorus which rang forth that day from the country schoolhouse, and which soon afterward echoed through the battle in many a soldier's ear and heart, miles away, on the bloody field of Gettysburg:—

“ The Union forever, hurrah! boys, hurrah!

Down with the traitor, up with the star,

While we rally round the flag, boys, rally once  
again,

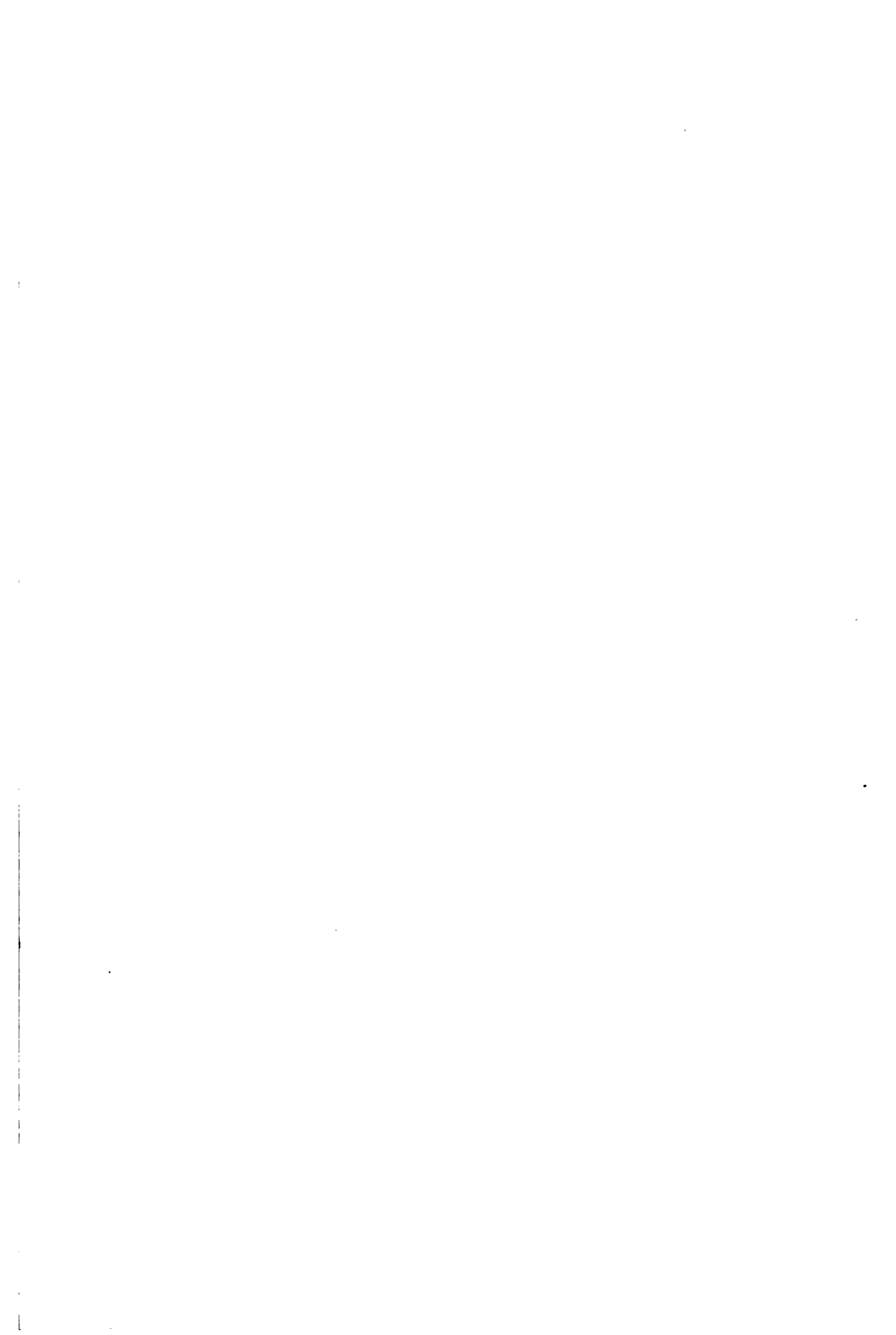
Shouting the battle cry of Freedom! ”

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The first company that passed responded to their captain with a will as he shouted, "Boys, give them three cheers and a tiger!" and the example was imitated by the regiments that followed; so that amid the singing of the children and the cheers of the soldiers, and the beating of the drums, the occasion was made memorable to all concerned.

Richard Wentworth Browne relates that a day or two after Lee's surrender in April, 1865, he visited Richmond, in company with some other Union officers. After a day of sight-seeing, the party adjourned to Mr. Browne's rooms for dinner. After dinner one of the officers who played well opened the piano, saying, "Boys, we have our old quartette here, let's have a song." As the house opposite was occupied by paroled Confederate officers, no patriotic songs were sung. Soon the lady of the house handed Mr. Browne this note: "Compliments of General — and staff. Will the gentlemen kindly allow us to come over and hear them sing?" Consent was readily given and they came. As the General entered the room, the Union officers recognized instantly the face and figure of an officer who had stood very high in the Confederacy. After introductions, and the usual interchange of civilities, the quartette sang for them glees and college songs, until at last the General said, "Excuse me, gentlemen, you sing delightfully, but what we want to hear is your army songs." Then they gave them the





*FORT SUMTER*

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army songs with unction: *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*; *John Brown's Body*; *We're coming, Father Abraham*; *Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, the Boys are Marching*; and so on through the whole catalogue to the *Star-Spangled Banner*,—to which the Confederate feet beat time as if they had never stepped to any but the music of the Union,—and closed their concert with Root's inspiring *Battle Cry of Freedom*.

When the applause had subsided, a tall, fine-looking young fellow in a major's uniform exclaimed, "Gentlemen, if we'd had your songs we'd have licked you out of your boots! Who couldn't have marched or fought with such songs? while we had nothing, absolutely nothing, except a bastard *Marseillaise*, *The Bonny Blue Flag*, and *Dixie*, which were nothing but jigs. *Maryland, my Maryland* was a splendid song, but the tune, old *Lauriger Horatius*, was about as inspiring as the Dead March in *Saul*, while every one of these Yankee songs is full of marching and fighting spirit."

Then turning to the General he said, "I shall never forget the first time I heard that chorus, 'Rally round the Flag.' It was a nasty night during the Seven Days' fight, and if I remember rightly, it was raining. I was on picket, when just before 'taps' some fellow on the other side struck up *The Battle Cry of Freedom* and others joined in the chorus until it seemed to me that the whole

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Yankee army was singing. A comrade who was with me sang out, 'Good heavens, Cap, what are those fellows made of, anyway? Here we've licked them six days running, and now, on the eve of the seventh, they're singing "Rally round the Flag?"' I am not naturally superstitious, but I tell you that song sounded to me like the knell of doom; my heart went down into my boots; and though I've tried to do my duty, it has been an uphill fight with me ever since that night."

Perhaps the most romantic and inspiring occasion on which *The Battle Cry of Freedom* was ever sung was at the raising of the flag over Fort Sumter on the 14th of April, 1865, that being the fourth anniversary of the day when Major Anderson had evacuated the fort after his brave defense. A large number of citizens went from New York in excursion steamers, to assist in the celebration. Colonel Stewart L. Woodford, recently the United States minister to Spain, was master of ceremonies. The oration was delivered by the eloquent Henry Ward Beecher, but the supreme moment of interest came when Major-General Anderson, who had added General to the Major in the past four years, after a touching and tender address, received from Sergeant Hart a bag containing the precious old flag which had waved in the breeze through those days of fierce bombardment, the din of which had been heard around the world. The flag had been



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saved for such a time as this, and now, by order of Abraham Lincoln, it was brought back to wave again over Fort Sumter. It was attached to the halyards, and General Anderson hoisted it to the head of the flagstaff amid loud huzzas. One can imagine the inspiration of the occasion, as William B. Bradbury led the singing of *The Battle Cry of Freedom*. How the tears ran down the cheeks, and hearts overflowed with thanksgiving as they shouted the chorus underneath the folds of the very flag that had received the first baptism of fire at the beginning of the Rebellion:—

“ The Union forever, hurrah! boys, hurrah!  
Down with the traitor, up with the star,  
While we rally round the flag, boys, rally once  
again,  
Shouting the battle cry of Freedom! ”









*HENRY CLAY WORK*

*SONG OF A THOUSAND YEARS.*

Lift up your eyes, desponding freemen!  
Fling to the winds your needless fears!  
He who unfurl'd your beauteous banner,  
Says it shall wave a thousand years!  
    " A thousand years! " my own Columbia,  
    'Tis the glad day so long foretold!  
    'Tis the glad morn whose early twilight,  
    Washington saw in times of old.

What if the clouds, one little moment,  
Hide the blue sky where morn appears —  
When the bright sun, that tints them crimson,  
Rises to shine a thousand years?

Tell the great world these blessed tidings!  
Yes, and be sure the bondman hears;  
Tell the oppressed of every nation,  
Jubilee lasts a thousand years!

Envious foes, beyond the ocean!  
Little we heed your threat'ning sneers;  
Little will they — our children's children —  
When you are gone a thousand years.

Rebels at home! go hide your faces —  
Weep for your crimes with bitter tears;

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You could not bind the blessed daylight,  
Though you should strive a thousand years.

Back to your dens, ye secret traitors!  
Down to your own degraded spheres!  
Ere the first blaze of dazzling sunshine,  
Shortens your lives a thousand years.

Haste thee along, thou glorious noonday!  
Oh, for the eyes of ancient seers!  
Oh, for the faith of him who reckons  
Each of his days a thousand years!

—*Henry Clay Work.*

Henry Clay Work was born in Middletown, Connecticut, October 1, 1832. The family came originally from Scotland, and the name is thought to have come from a castle, "Auld Wark, upon the Tweed," famed in the border wars in the times made immortal by Sir Walter Scott. He inherited his love of liberty and hatred of slavery from his father, who suffered much for conscience' sake. While quite young, his family moved to Illinois, near Quincy, and he passed his boyhood in the most abject poverty, his father having been taken from home and imprisoned because of his strong anti-slavery views and active work in the struggles of those enthusiastic and devoted reformers. In 1845, Henry's father was pardoned on condition that he would leave the State of Illinois. The family then

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returned to Connecticut. After a few months' attendance at school in Middletown, our future song writer was apprenticed to Elisha Geer, of Hartford, to learn the printer's trade. He learned to write over the printer's case in much the same way as did Benjamin Franklin. He never had any music lessons except a short term of instruction in a church singing school. The poetic temperament, and his musical gifts as well, were his inheritance. He began writing very early, and many of his unambitious little poems found their way into the newspapers during his apprenticeship.

Work's first song was written in Hartford and entitled, *We're coming, Sister Mary*. He sold this song to George Christie, of Christie's minstrels, and it made a decided hit. In 1855 he removed to Chicago, where he continued his trade as a printer. The following year he married Miss Sarah Parker, of Hubbardston, Massachusetts, and settled at Hyde Park. In 1860 he wrote *Lost on the "Lady Elgin,"* a song commemorating the terrible disaster to a Lake Michigan steamer, which became widely known.

*Kingdom Coming* was Work's first war song, and was written in 1861. Now that it has been so successful, it seems strange that he should have had trouble to find a publisher for it; yet such was the case. But its success was immediate as soon as published. It is perhaps the most popular of all the darkey songs which deal directly with the question

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of the freedom of the slaves. It set the whole world laughing, but there was about it a vein of political wisdom as well as of poetic justice that commended it to strong men. The music is full of life and is as popular as the words. It became the song of the newsboys of the home towns and cities as well as of the soldiers in the camp and on the march. It portrays the practical situation on the Southern plantation as perhaps no other poem brought out by the war:—

“Say, darkies, hab you seen de massa,  
Wid de muffstash on his face,  
Go long de road some time dis mornin’,  
Like he gwine to leab de place?  
He seen a smoke way up de ribber,  
Whar de Linkum gunboats lay;  
He took his hat, an’ lef’ bery sudden,  
An’ I spec he’s run away!  
De massa run? ha, ha!  
De darkey stay? ho, ho!  
It mus’ be now de kingdom comin’,  
And de year ob jubilo!

“He’s six feet one way, two foot tudder,  
An’ he weigh tree hundred poun’,  
His coat’s so big he couldn’t pay de tailor,  
An’ it won’t go half way roun’.  
He drill so much dey call him cap’an,  
An’ he get so drefful tann’d,







*THE WHITE HOUSE*

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I spec he try an' fool dem Yankees  
For to t'ink he's contraband.

“De darkies feel so lonesome  
Libing in de log house on de lawn,  
Dey moved dar tings to massa's parlor,  
For to keep it while he gone.  
Dar's wine and cider in de kitchen,  
An' de darkies dey'll hab some;  
I spose dey'll all be cornfiscated,  
When de Linkum sojers come.

“De oberseer he make us trubbel,  
An' he dribe us round a spell;  
We lock him up in de smoke-house cellar,  
Wid de key trown in de well.  
De whip is lost, de handcuff's broken,  
But de massa'll hab his pay;  
He's ole enough, big enough, ought to known  
better,  
Den to went an' run away.”

Another most popular slave song which had a tremendous sale was entitled *Wake Nicodemus*, the first verse of which is,—

“Nicodemus, the slave, was of African birth,  
And was bought for a bagful of gold;  
He was reckon'd as part of the salt of the earth,  
But he died years ago, very old.

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'Twas his last sad request — so we laid him away  
In the trunk of an old hollow tree.  
'Wake me up!' was his charge, 'at the first break  
of day —  
Wake me up for the great jubilee!'  
The Good Time Coming is almost here!  
It was long, long, long on the way!  
Now run and tell Elijah to hurry up Pomp,  
And meet us at the gumtree down in the  
swamp,  
To wake Nicodemus to-day."

While *Marching through Georgia* is, without doubt, Mr. Work's most renowned war song, his *Song of a Thousand Years* has about it a rise and swell, and a sublimity both in expression and melody, that surpasses anything else that he has written. The chorus is peculiarly fine both in words and music.

Work's songs brought him a considerable fortune. After the close of the war he made an extended tour through Europe, and while on the sea wrote a song which became very famous, entitled *The Ship that Never Returned*. During the later years of his life he wrote *Come Home, Father*, and *King Bibbler's Army* — both famous temperance songs.

After his return from Europe, Work invested his fortune in a fruit-growing enterprise in Vineland, New Jersey. He was also a somewhat remarkable

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inventor, and a patented knitting machine, a walking doll, and a rotary engine are among his numerous achievements. These years were saddened by financial and domestic misfortunes. His wife became insane, and died in an asylum in 1883. He survived her only a year, dying suddenly of heart disease on June 8, 1884, at Hartford, Connecticut. His ashes rest in Spring Grove Cemetery in that city, and on Decoration Day the Grand Army of the Republic never fail to strew flowers on the grave of the singer whose words and melodies led many an army to deeds of heroism. May a grateful people keep his memory green, and cause his grave to blossom for "A Thousand Years!"









*JOHN WALLACE HUTCHINSON*



*TENTING ON THE OLD CAMP GROUND.*

We're tenting to-night on the old camp ground;  
Give us a song to cheer  
Our weary hearts, a song of home,  
And friends we love so dear.  
Many are the hearts that are weary to-night,  
Wishing for the war to cease,  
Many are the hearts, looking for the right,  
To see the dawn of peace.  
Tenting to-night, tenting to-night,  
Tenting on the old camp ground.

We've been tenting to-night on the old camp ground,  
Thinking of days gone by,  
Of the loved ones at home, that gave us the hand,  
And the tear that said " Good-bye! "

We are tired of war on the old camp ground,  
Many are dead and gone,  
Of the brave and true who've left their homes  
Others been wounded long.

We've been fighting to-day on the old camp ground,  
Many are lying near;  
Some are dead, and some are dying,  
Many are in tears.

—*Walter Kittredge.*

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Walter Kittredge was born in Merrimac, New Hampshire, October 8, 1832. His father was a farmer, and though New Hampshire farms are proverbial for their stony hillsides, they were fertile for the production of large families in those days, and Walter was the tenth of eleven children. His education was received at the village school. Like most other writers of war songs, Kittredge had an ear for music from the very first. All of his knowledge of music, however, he picked up for himself, as he never had an opportunity of attending music schools, or being under a teacher. He writes: "My father bought one of the first seraphines [a species of melodeon] made in Concord, New Hampshire, and well do I remember when the man came to put it up. To hear him play a simple melody was a rich treat, and this event was an important epoch in my child life."

*Tenting on the Old Camp Ground*, more than any other of our American war songs, had in it the heart experience of the man who wrote it. In 1863 Kittredge was drafted into the army. That night he went to bed the prey of many conflicting emotions. He was loyal to the heart's core, but was full of grief at the thought of leaving his home, and his rather poetic and timid nature revolted against war. In the middle of the night he awoke from a troubled sleep with the burden of dread still on his mind. In the solemnity and stillness of the





*MOCASIN BEND  
(From Lookout Mountain)*

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night the sad and pathetic fancies of the battle field filled his thought. He reflected on how many of the dear boys had already gone over to the unseen shore, killed in battle, or dead from disease in the camps. He thought of the unknown graves, of the sorrowful homes; of the weary waiting for the end of the cruel strife, of the trials and hardships of the tented field where the brave soldier boys waited for the coming battle, which might be their last. Suddenly these reflections began to take form in his mind. He arose and began to write. The first verse reveals his purpose not only to give cheer to others, but to comfort his own heart: —

“ We’re tenting to-night on the old camp ground;  
Give us a song to cheer  
Our weary hearts, a song of home!  
And friends we loved so dear.”

That verse was like a prayer to God for comfort and the prayer was heard and answered.

Being a musician, a tune for the song easily came to Kittredge’s mind, and after copying both words and music he went at once to Lynn, Massachusetts, to visit his friend, Asa Hutchinson, one of the famous Hutchinson family, who then lived at Bird’s Nest Cottage, at High Rock. After they had looked it over together, they called in John Hutchinson, who still lives, the “last of the Hutchinsons,” to sing the solo. Asa Hutchinson sang the bass, and

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the children joined in the chorus. Kittredge at once made a contract with Asa Hutchinson to properly arrange and publish the song for one-half the profits.

The Hutchinson family were just then giving a series of torchlight concerts on the crest of old High Rock, with the tickets at the exceedingly popular price of five cents. The people from all the towns about turned out *en masse*. They had half a dozen or more ticket sellers and takers stationed at the various approaches to the rock. During the day they would wind balls of old cloth and soak them in oil. These, placed in pans on the top of posts at intervals, would burn quite steadily for an hour or more, and boys stood ready to replace them when they burned out. The audience gathered in thousands every night during this remarkable series of concerts, and on the very night of the day Kittredge had brought his new hymn, *Tenting on the Old Camp Ground* was sung for the first time from the crest of High Rock.

Like so many other afterward famous songs, it was hard to find a publisher at first, but the immense popularity which sprang up from the singing of the hymn about Boston soon led a Boston publisher to hire some one to write another song with a similar title, and a few weeks later the veteran music publisher, Ditson, brought out the original. Its sale reached many hundreds of thousands of copies during the war, and since then it has retained

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its popularity perhaps as completely as any of our war lyrics. It has been specially popular at reunions of soldiers, and every Grand Army assembly calls for it. Many a time I have seen the old veteran wiping away the tears as he listened to the singing of the second verse:—

“ We’ve been tenting to-night on the old camp  
ground,  
Thinking of days gone by,  
Of the loved ones at home, that gave us the hand,  
And the tear that said ‘ Good-bye.’ ”











*JULIA WARD HOWE*

*THE BATTLE HYMN OF THE  
REPUBLIC.*

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the  
Lord;

He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes  
of wrath are stored;

He hath loosed the fatal lightning of his terrible  
swift sword:

His truth is marching on.

I have seen him in the watchfires of a hundred cir-  
cling camps;

They have builded him an altar in the evening dews  
and damps;

I have read his righteous sentence by the dim and  
flaring lamps;

His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of  
steel:

"As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my  
grace shall deal;

Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent  
with his heel,

Since God is marching on."

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He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never  
call retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his  
judgment-seat;  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him! be jubilant,  
my feet!

Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across  
the sea,  
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and  
me;  
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make  
men free,

While God is marching on.

—*Julia Ward Howe.*

This is, perhaps, the most elevated and lofty strain of American patriotism. Julia Ward Howe is a worthy author of such a hymn. She was the daughter of Samuel Ward, a solid New York banker of his time. Her mother, Julia Rush Ward, was herself a poet of good ability. Mrs. Howe received a very fine education, and, in addition to ordinary college culture, speaks fluently Italian, French, and Greek. In her girlhood she was a devout student of Kant, Hegel, Spinoza, Comte, and Fichte. Her literary work had given her considerable prominence before her marriage to Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe,

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of Boston, just then famous for his self-sacrificing services in association with Lord Byron in behalf of the liberty of the Greeks, and henceforth to become forever immortal for his life-long devotion to the cause of the blind. America never produced a more daring and benevolent man than Doctor Howe.

The *Battle Hymn of the Republic* had its birth-throes amid the storms of war. In December, 1861, Mrs. Howe, in company with her husband, Governor and Mrs. John A. Andrew, Rev. Dr. James Freeman Clarke, and other friends, made a journey to Washington. They arrived in the night. As their train sped on through the darkness, they saw in vivid contrast the camp fires of the pickets set to guard the line of the railroad. The troops lay encamped around the Capital City, their lines extending to a considerable distance. At the hotel where the Boston party were entertained, officers and their orderlies were conspicuous, and army ambulances were constantly arriving and departing. The gallop of horsemen, the tramp of foot soldiers, the noise of drum, fife, and bugle were heard continually. The two great powers were holding each other in check, and the very air seemed tense with expectancy. The one absorbing thought in Washington was the army, and the time of the visitors was generally employed in visits to the camps and hospitals.

One day during this visit a party which included

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Doctor and Mrs. Howe and Doctor Clarke attended a review of the Union troops at a distance of several miles from the city. The maneuvers were interrupted by a sudden attack of the enemy, and instead of the spectacle promised them, they saw some reinforcements of cavalry gallop hastily to the aid of a small force of Federal troops which had been surprised and surrounded. They returned to the city as soon as possible, but their progress was much impeded by marching troops who nearly filled the highway. As they had to drive very slowly, in order to beguile the time they began to sing army songs, among which the John Brown song soon came to mind. This caught the ear of the soldiers and they joined in the inspiring chorus, and made it ring and ring again. Mrs. Howe was greatly impressed by the long lines of soldiers and the devotion and enthusiasm which they evinced, as they sung while they marched, *John Brown's Body*. James Freeman Clarke, seeing Mrs. Howe's deep emotion which was mirrored in her intense face, said:

"You ought to write some new words to go with that tune."

"I will," she earnestly replied.

She went back to Washington, went to bed, and finally fell asleep. She awoke in the night to find her now famous hymn beginning to form itself in her brain. As she lay still in the dark room, line





*FANEUIL HALL*



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after line and verse after verse shaped themselves. When she had thought out the last of these, she felt that she dared not go to sleep again lest they should be effaced by a morning nap. She sprang out of bed and groped about in the dim December twilight to find a bit of paper and the stump of a pencil with which she had been writing the evening before. Having found these articles, and having long been accustomed to jot down stray thoughts with scarcely any light in a room made dark for the repose of her infant children, she very soon completed her writing, went back to bed, and fell fast asleep.

What sublime and splendid words she had written! There is in them the spirit of the old prophets. Nothing could be grander than the first line:—

“ Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of  
the Lord.”

In the second verse one sees through her eyes the vivid picture she had witnessed in her afternoon's visit to the army:—

“ I have seen him in the watchfires of a hundred  
circling camps;  
They have builded him an altar in the evening  
dews and damps;  
I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and  
flaring lamps;  
His day is marching on.”

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In the third and fourth verses there is a triumphant note of daring faith and prophecy that was wonderfully contagious, and millions of men and women took heart again as they read or sang and caught its optimistic note:—

“ He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall  
never call retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his  
judgment-seat;  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him! be jubilant,  
my feet!  
Our God is marching on.”

On returning to Boston, Mrs. Howe carried her hymn to James T. Fields, at that time the editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, and it was first published in that magazine. The title, *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*, was the work of Mr. Fields.

Strange to say, when it first appeared the song aroused no special attention. Though it was destined to have such world-wide appreciation, it won its first victory in Libby Prison. Nearly a year after its publication, a copy of a newspaper containing it was smuggled into the prison, where many hundreds of Northern officers and soldiers were confined, among them being the brilliant Chaplain, now Bishop, Charles C. McCabe. The Chaplain could sing anything and make music out of it, but he seized on this splendid battle hymn with

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enthusiastic delight. It makes the blood in one's veins boil again with patriotic fervor to hear him tell how the tears rained down strong men's cheeks as they sang in the Southern prison, far away from home and friends, those wonderful closing lines:—

“ In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across  
the sea,  
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you  
and me;  
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make  
men free,  
While God is marching on.”

It was Chaplain McCabe who had the privilege and honor of calling public attention to the song after his release. He came to Washington and in his lecture (that has come to be almost as famous as the battle hymn) on “The Bright Side of Life in Libby Prison,” he described the singing of the hymn by himself and his companions in that dismal place of confinement. People now began to ask who had written the hymn, and the author's name was easily established by a reference to the magazine.









*GEORGE FREDERICK ROOT*

*JUST BEFORE THE BATTLE, MOTHER.*

Just before the battle, mother,  
I am thinking most of you,  
While upon the field we're watching,  
With the enemy in view —  
Comrades brave are round me lying,  
Fill'd with tho't of home and God;  
For well they know that on the morrow,  
Some will sleep beneath the sod.  
Farewell, mother, you may never  
Press me to your heart again;  
But oh, you'll not forget me, mother,  
If I'm number'd with the slain.

Oh I long to see you, mother,  
And the loving ones at home,  
But I'll never leave our banner  
Till in honor I can come.  
Tell the traitors all around you  
That their cruel words, we know,  
In ev'ry battle kill our soldiers  
By the help they give the foe.

Hark! I hear the bugles sounding,  
'Tis the signal for the fight,  
Now may God protect us, mother,  
As he ever does the right.

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Hear the "Battle Cry of Freedom,"  
How it swells upon the air,  
Oh, yes, we'll rally round the standard,  
Or we'll perish nobly there.

—*George F. Root.*

George F. Root was born in Sheffield, Massachusetts, in 1820. He has perhaps written more popular war songs than any other American. His songs have carried his name to the ends of the earth. He was a musician from childhood. He began as a boy by getting hold of every musical instrument he could find and attempting to master it. When about eighteen years of age, he left his father's farm in the beautiful Housatonic Valley, and went to Boston to obtain instruction in music, which he had already determined to make his life-work. He was very fortunate in finding employment with a Boston teacher named A. B. Johnson, who also took the young countryman into his own home and manifested the warmest interest in his superior musical gifts. It was not long before young Root became a partner in Mr. Johnson's school. He was ambitious and industrious, and was soon acting as leader for a number of church choirs. There are several churches in Boston to-day which recall as one of the legends of their history that George F. Root used to lead their music. His reputation as a teacher spread so rapidly that he was sought after to give special instruction in other



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institutions. Later he went to New York and became the principal of the Abbott Institute.

Mr. Root was not satisfied to make anything less than the best out of himself, and so went to Europe in 1850 and spent a year in special work improving his musical talent. About this time he began writing songs, in which he had success from the start. These won him such wide recognition that Mason and Bradbury, the great musical publishers of that day, secured his aid in the making of church music books. He now retired from the field of teaching and devoted himself to composing music and the holding of great musical conventions.

On the breaking out of the war, Dr. Root was in Chicago, and from that Western center of patriotic fire and enthusiasm he sent forth scores of songs that thrilled the heart of the country. While the *Battle Cry of Freedom* was perhaps his most famous song, there are a number of others that keep, even to this day, close company with it in popularity. The old veterans who still linger on the scene, as well as those who were but boys and girls in those days, well remember the martial enthusiasm that was evoked by his prison song, *Tramp, Tramp, Tramp!* The mingled pathos and hopefulness of it has been rarely, if ever, surpassed:—

“In the prison cell I sit,  
Thinking, mother dear, of you,

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And our bright and happy home so far away,  
And the tears they fill my eyes,  
Spite of all that I can do,  
Tho' I try to cheer my comrades and be gay.  
Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are  
marching,  
Cheer up, comrades, they will come,  
And beneath the starry flag  
We will breathe the air again,  
Of the freeland in our own beloved home.

"In the battle front we stood,  
When their fiercest charge they made,  
And they swept us off a hundred men or more;  
But before we reached their lines,  
They were beaten back dismayed,  
And we heard the cry of vict'ry o'er and o'er.

"So within the prison cell,  
We are waiting for the day  
That shall come to open wide the iron door,  
And the hollow eye grows bright,  
And the poor heart almost gay,  
As we think of seeing home and friends once  
more."

To appreciate the pathos of that song one needs  
to hear a company of Grand Army Veterans tell  
about singing it in Andersonville or Libby Prisons.





*FORTRESS MONROE*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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*Just Before the Battle*, Mother appealed to the tender side of those who remained at home, and made it a very popular song not only for public gatherings, but in drawing-rooms, and camps in the twilight of the evening. The sequel to it, *Just After the Battle*, was equally as popular and retains its popularity though a generation has passed away since it was written. It, too, has the vein of optimism in it which runs through all of Doctor Root's work. Perhaps that is one of the secrets of his great power over the human heart. While he makes us weep with the tenderness of the sentiment, there is always a rainbow on his cloud, a rainbow with promises of a brighter to-morrow. *Just After the Battle* has that rainbow in it, in the hope expressed by the singer that he shall still see his mother again in the old home:—

“Still upon the field of battle  
I am lying, mother dear,  
With my wounded comrades waiting  
For the morning to appear.  
Many sleep to waken never,  
In this world of strife and death,  
And many more are faintly calling,  
With their feeble dying breath.  
Mother dear, your boy is wounded,  
And the night is drear with pain,  
But still I feel that I shall see you,  
And the dear old home again.

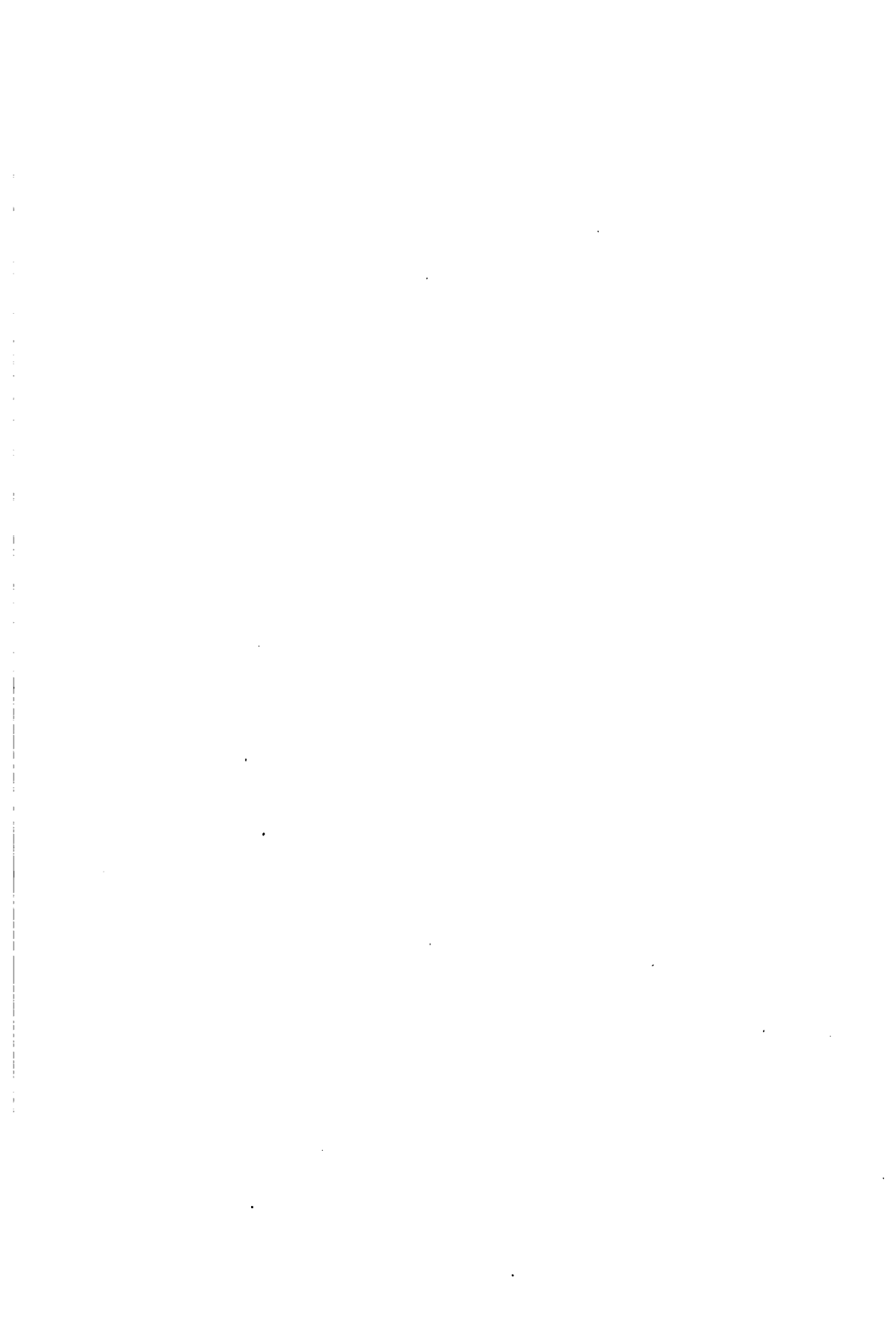
## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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"Oh, the first great charge was fearful,  
And a thousand brave men fell,  
Still, amid the dreadful carnage,  
I was safe from shot and shell.  
So, amid the fatal shower,  
I had nearly pass'd the day,  
When here the dreaded Minie struck me,  
And I sunk amid the fray.

"Oh, the glorious cheer of triumph,  
When the foeman turn'd and fled,  
Leaving us the field of battle,  
Strewn with dying and with dead.  
Oh, the torture and the anguish,  
That I could not follow on,  
But here amid my fallen comrades,  
I must wait till morning's dawn."







*CHARLES CARROLL SAWYER*



*WHEN THIS CRUEL WAR IS OVER.*

Dearest love, do you remember,  
When we last did meet,  
How you told me that you lov'd me,  
Kneeling at my feet?  
Oh! how proud you stood before me,  
In your suit of blue,  
When you vow'd to me and country  
Ever to be true.  
Weeping, sad and lonely,  
Hopes and fears how vain!  
When this cruel war is over,  
Praying that we meet again!

When the summer breeze is sighing,  
Mournfully along;  
Or when autumn leaves are falling,  
Sadly breathes the song.  
Oft in dreams I see thee lying  
On the battle plain,  
Lonely, wounded, even dying,  
Calling, but in vain.

If amid the din of battle  
Nobly you should fall,  
Far away from those who love you,  
None to hear you call —

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Who would whisper words of comfort  
Who would soothe your pain?  
Ah! the many cruel fancies,  
Ever in my brain.

But our country call'd you, darling,  
Angels cheer your way;  
While our nation's sons are fighting,  
We can only pray.  
Nobly strike for God and liberty,  
Let all nations see  
How we love the starry banner,  
Emblem of the free.

—*Charles Carroll Sawyer.*

Charles Carroll Sawyer was born in Mystic, Connecticut, in 1833. His father, Captain Joshua Sawyer, was an old-fashioned Yankee sea captain. The family moved to New York when Charles was quite young, and he obtained his education in that city. The poetic instinct was marked in his youth, and at the age of twelve he wrote several sonnets which attracted a good deal of attention among his acquaintances. At the breaking out of the war he began to write war songs, and in a few months was recognized everywhere as one of the most successful musical composers of the day. His most popular songs were *Who will Care for Mother Now?* *Mother would Comfort Me*, and the one we have

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selected—*When this Cruel War is Over*. Each of these three songs named reached a sale of over a million copies before the close of the war, and were sung in almost every mansion and farmhouse and cabin from the Atlantic to the Pacific throughout all the northern part of the Union, as well as in every camp where soldiers waited for battle.

His song, *Mother would Comfort Me*, was suggested, as indeed were most of his songs, by a war incident. A soldier in one of the New York regiments had been wounded and was taken prisoner at Gettysburg. He was placed in a Southern hospital, and when the doctor told him that nothing more could be done for him, his dying words were: "Mother would comfort me if she were here." When Sawyer learned of the incident, he wrote the song, the first verse of which runs as follows:—

" Wounded and sorrowful, far from my home,  
Sick among strangers, uncared for, unknown;  
Even the birds that used sweetly to sing  
Are silent, and swiftly have taken the wing.  
No one but mother can cheer me to-day,  
No one for me could so fervently pray;  
None to console me, no kind friend is near—  
Mother would comfort me if she were here."

This song captured the country at once, and spread its author's fame everywhere.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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On another occasion a telegram came to a Brooklyn wife concerning her husband who was killed on the battlefield. The last words of the despatch read: "He was not afraid to die." Sawyer caught up that note in the telegram, and wrote his splendid song beginning,—

" Like a true and faithful soldier  
He obeyed our country's call;  
Vowing to protect its banner  
Or in battle proudly fall:  
Noble, cheerful, brave and fearless,  
When most needed, ever nigh,  
Always living as a Christian,  
' He was not afraid to die.' "

Another of his greatest creations found its inspiration in a similar way. During one of the battles, among the many noble men that fell was a young man who had been the only support of an aged and invalid mother for years. Overhearing the doctor tell those who were near him that he could not live, he placed his hands across his forehead, and with a trembling voice said, while burning tears ran down his cheeks: "Who will care for mother, now?" Sawyer took up these words which voiced the generous heart of the dying youth, and made them the title and theme of one of his noblest songs. The first verse is full of pathos,—





*U. S. BATTLE SHIP "MAINE"*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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“ Why am I so weak and weary,  
See how faint my heated breath,  
All around to me seems darkness,  
Tell me, comrades, is this death?  
Ah! how well I know your answer;  
To my fate I meekly bow,  
If you'll only tell me truly  
Who will care for mother now? ”

At that time, when every community throughout the North as well as the South had more than one mother whose sole dependence for the future days of weakness and old age was the strong arm of some soldier boy at the front, this song struck a chord that was very tender, and it was sung and whistled and played in street and theater and drawing-room throughout the entire country.

Sawyer's songs were unique in that they were popular in both armies. They never contained a word of malice, and appealed to the universal human heart. At the close of the war a newspaper published at Milledgeville, Georgia, said of Sawyer's songs, “ His sentiments are fraught with the greatest tenderness, and never one word has he written about the South or the war that could wound the sore chords of a Southern heart. ”

The most universally famous of all Sawyer's songs was *When this Cruel War is Over*. As the long years of carnage dragged on, the fascination

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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for the glamour and glory of war disappeared, and its horrid cruelty impressed people, North and South, more and more. Loving hearts in the army and at home caught up this song as an appropriate expression of the hunger for peace that was in their souls. A popular Southern song, *When upon the Field of Glory*, the words of which were written by J. H. Hewitt and the music by H. L. Schreiner, was an answer to this song of Sawyer's. As it is one of the best of the songs of the Confederacy, it is worth repetition here:—

“ When upon the field of glory,  
    'Mid the battle cry,  
And the smoke of cannon curling  
    Round the mountain high;  
Then sweet mem'ries will come o'er me,  
    Painting home and thee,  
Nerving me to deeds of daring,  
    Struggling to be free.  
    Weep no longer, dearest,  
    Tears are now in vain.  
    When this cruel war is over  
    We may meet again.

“ Oft I think of joys departed,  
    Oft I think of thee;  
When night's sisters throw around me,  
    Their star'd canopy.



## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Dreams so dear come o'er my pillow,  
Bringing up the past,  
Oh! how sweet the soldier's visions!  
Oh! how short they last!

"When I stand a lonely picket,  
Gazing on the moon,  
As she walks her starry pathway,  
In night's silent noon;  
I will think that thou art looking  
On her placid face,  
Then our tho'ts will meet together,  
In a heav'nly place.

"When the bullet, swiftly flying  
Thro' the murky air,  
Hits its mark, my sorrow'd bosom,  
Leaving death's pang there;  
Then my tho'ts on thee will turn, love,  
While I prostrate lie.  
My pale lips shall breathe, 'God bless thee —  
For our cause I die!'

Weep then for me, dearest,  
When I'm free from pain;  
When this cruel war is over,  
In heav'n we'll meet again."









*WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN*

### *MARCHING THROUGH GEORGIA.*

Bring the good old bugle, boys, we'll sing another  
song,

Sing it with a spirit that will start the world  
along,

Sing it as we used to sing it fifty thousand strong,

While we were marching through Georgia.

Hurrah! hurrah! We bring the jubilee!

Hurrah! hurrah! The flag that makes you free!

So we sang the chorus from Atlanta to the sea,

While we were marching through Georgia.

How the darkies shouted when they heard the joyful  
sound!

How the turkeys gobbled which our commissary  
found!

How the sweet potatoes even started from the  
ground,

While we were marching through Georgia.

Yes, and there were Union men who wept with joy-  
ful tears,

When they saw the honored flag they had not seen  
for years,

Hardly could they be restrained from breaking forth  
in cheers,

While we were marching through Georgia.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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" Sherman's dashing Yankee boys will never reach  
the coast! "

So the saucy rebels said, and 'twas a handsome boast,  
Had they not forgot, alas! to reckon with the host,  
While we were marching through Georgia.

So we made a thoroughfare for Freedom and her  
train,

Sixty miles in latitude; three hundred to the main;  
Treason fled before us, for resistance was in vain,  
While we were marching through Georgia.

—Henry Clay Work.

Among Mr. Work's famous war songs, none have captured so wide an audience, or held their own so well since the war, as *Marching through Georgia*. I think it is the foraging idea, so happily expressed, that, more than anything else except the contagious music which starts the most rheumatic foot to keeping time, has given this song its popular sway. There was something so reckless and romantic in Sherman's cutting loose from his base of supplies and depending on the country through which he marched for food for his army, that the song which expressed this seized the imagination of the people.

General Sherman in his *Memoirs* says: " The skill and success of the men in collecting forage was one of the features of this march. Each brigade commander had authority to detail a company of

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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foragers, usually about fifty men with one or two commissioned officers, selected for their boldness and enterprise. This party would be despatched before daylight with a knowledge of the intended day's march and camp, would proceed on foot five or six miles from the route traveled by their brigade, and then visit every plantation and farm within range. They would usually procure a wagon, or family carriage, load it with bacon, cornmeal, turkeys, chickens, ducks, and everything that could be used as food or forage, and would then regain the main road, usually in advance of their train. When this came up, they would deliver to the brigade commissary the supplies thus gathered by the way. Often would I pass these foraging parties at the roadside, waiting for their wagons to come up, and was amused at their strange collections — mules, horses, even cattle, packed with old saddles and loaded with hams, bacon, bags of cornmeal, and poultry of every character and description. Although this foraging was attended with great danger and hard work, there seemed to be a charm about it that attracted the soldiers, and it was a privilege to be detailed on such a party. Daily they returned mounted on all sorts of beasts, which were at once taken from them and appropriated to the general use; but the next day they would start out again on foot, only to repeat the experience of the day before."

Bishop Ames, of the Methodist Episcopal Church,

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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used to greatly enjoy relating how he was invited to share the carriage of a German Baron on the occasion of the great military review in Washington at the close of the war. They had a favorable position for viewing the procession. Hour after hour the soldiers marched by. There rumbled the field artillery; there crowded by, with dripping sides and champing mouths, the cavalry, and after them tramped the unwearying infantry. At one time there passed a brigade clothed in brand-new uniforms, specially brought out for the occasion. Every uniform was clean and beautiful, every bayonet and sword polished and gleaming. The drill was perfect. The men were at the highest point of condition. Every motion and look bespoke the well-drilled soldier. As they marched by the Baron turned around excitedly to Bishop Ames and said, "Pishop, those men can whip the world."

Immediately following them, purposely to bring out the strong contrast, was a brigade of old veterans, just as they came from their long campaign in the South. They were some of the men who had marched with Sherman to the sea—the men who had picked up the ducks and the cornmeal by the wayside. They were soiled and ragged. One man had one leg of his trousers patched out by strange cloth; another had no coat; another had a teakettle swung on his gun over his shoulder; another had part of a ham on his bayonet. So they represented







*SHERMAN BURNS ATLANTA AND MARCHES TOWARD THE SEA*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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the march through Georgia. They rolled along with an easy, swinging gait, chatting, laughing, occasionally imitating some animal, giving a bark, or a howl, or a screech, yet every man a soldier and keeping step to the music and in line. As these men with their tattered uniforms and torn and stained flags went by, the Baron sprang up, and with tears rolling down his cheeks, threw his arms around Bishop Ames and cried: "Mein Gott! Pishop, these men could *whip the devil!*"

General Sherman himself was never enthusiastic over the song that has immortalized his famous march. I have been unable to find in his *Memoirs* a single reference to it; but he quotes there in full a fine song by Adjutant S. H. M. Byers which he evidently would have been very glad to have had replace the simpler lines of Mr. Work. But Work had the key to the people's heart, and his song will live as long as the American flag. Mr. Byers' song, however, is a splendid piece of work and well worth repeating here. General Sherman says that on the afternoon of February 17, 1865, on overhauling his pockets, according to custom, to read more carefully the various notes and memoranda received during the day, he found a paper which had been given him by a Union prisoner who had escaped from Columbia. "It proved," writes the General, "to be the song of *Sherman's March to the Sea*, which had been composed by Adjutant S. H. M.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Byers, of the Fifth Iowa Infantry, when a prisoner in the asylum at Columbia, which had been beautifully written off by a fellow-prisoner, and handed to me in person. This appeared to me so good that I at once sent for Byers, attached him to my staff, provided him with horse and equipment, and took him as far as Fayetteville, North Carolina, whence he was sent to Washington as bearer of despatches."

The writing of this song was a good thing for Byers, as it secured him the lifelong friendship of General Sherman, and through his kindly support he was afterward made consul at Zurich, Switzerland. Adjutant Byers said that there was among the prisoners at Columbia an excellent glee club who used to sing it well, with an audience, often, of rebel ladies. It is truly a fine poem:—

"Our camp-fires shone bright on the mountain  
That frowned on the river below,  
As we stood by our guns in the morning,  
And eagerly watched for the foe;  
When a rider came out of the darkness  
That hung over mountain and tree,  
And shouted, ' Boys, up and be ready!  
For Sherman will march to the sea! '  
Then sang we the song of our chieftain,  
That echoed over river and lea;  
And the stars in our banner shone brighter  
When Sherman marched down to the sea!

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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- “Then cheer upon cheer for bold Sherman  
Went up from each valley and glen,  
And the bugles reëchoed the music  
That came from the lips of the men;  
For we knew that the stars in our banner  
More bright in their splendor would be,  
And that blessings from Northland would greet us,  
When Sherman marched down to the sea!
- “Then forward, boys! forward to battle!  
We marched on our wearisome way,  
We stormed the wild hills of Resaca—  
God bless those who fell on that day!  
Then Kenesaw frowned in its glory,  
Frowned down on the flag of the free;  
But the East and the West bore our standard,  
And Sherman marched on to the sea!
- “Still onward we pressed, till our banners  
Swept out from Atlanta’s grim walls,  
And the blood of the patriot dampened  
The soil where the traitor-flag falls;  
But we paused not to weep for the fallen,  
Who slept by each river and tree,  
Yet we twined a wreath of the laurel  
As Sherman marched down to the sea!
- “Oh, proud was our army that morning,  
That stood where the pine darkly towers,  
When Sherman said, ‘Boys, you are weary,  
But to-day fair Savannah is ours!’

## **Immortal Songs of Camp and Field**

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Then sang we the song of our chieftain,  
That echoed over river and lea;  
And the stars in our banner shone brighter  
When Sherman camped down by the sea! "



*Plymouth Rock*





*ROBERT EDWARD LEE*



*MY MARYLAND.*

The despot's heel is on thy shore,  
Maryland!

His torch is at thy temple door,  
Maryland!

Avenge the patriotic gore  
That flecked the streets of Baltimore,  
And be the battle queen of yore,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Hark to an exiled son's appeal,  
Maryland!

My mother State, to thee I kneel,  
Maryland!

For life or death, for woe or weal,  
Thy peerless chivalry reveal,  
And gird thy beauteous limbs with steel,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Thou wilt not cower in the dust,  
Maryland!

Thy beaming sword shall never rust,  
Maryland!

Remember Carroll's sacred trust,  
Remember Howard's warlike thrust,  
And all thy slumberers with the just,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Come! 'Tis the red dawn of the day,  
Maryland!

Come with thy panoplied array,  
Maryland!

With Ringgold's spirit for the fray,  
With Watson's blood at Monterey,  
With fearless Lowe and dashing May,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Dear mother, burst the tyrant's chain,  
Maryland!

Virginia should not call in vain,  
Maryland!

She meets her sisters on the plain,  
" *Sic semper!* " 'tis the proud refrain  
That baffles minions back amain,  
Maryland!

Arise in majesty again,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Come! for thy shield is bright and strong,  
Maryland!

Come! for thy dalliance does thee wrong,  
Maryland!

Come to thine own heroic throng  
Stalking with liberty along,  
And chant thy dauntless slogan-song,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

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I see the blush upon thy cheek,  
Maryland!  
But thou wast ever bravely meek,  
Maryland!  
But lo! There surges forth a shriek,  
From hill to hill, from creek to creek,  
Potomac calls to Chesapeake,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Thou wilt not yield the Vandal toll,  
Maryland!  
Thou wilt not crook to his control,  
Maryland!  
Better the fire upon thee roll,  
Better the shot, the blade, the bowl,  
Than crucifixion of the soul,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

I hear the distant thunder-hum,  
Maryland!  
The "Old Line's" bugle, fife, and drum,  
Maryland!  
She is not dead, nor deaf, nor dumb;  
Huzza! she spurns the Northern scum —  
She breathes, she burns! She'll come!  
She'll come!  
Maryland, my Maryland!

—James Ryder Randall.

*My Maryland*, one of the most popular songs

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of the Confederacy, was written by James Ryder Randall, in 1861. Randall was at that time professor of English literature at Poydras College, upon the Fausse Rivière, of Louisiana. He was very young, and had but recently come from college in Maryland. He was full of poetry and romance, and when one day in April, 1861, he read in the New Orleans *Delta* the news of the attack on the Massachusetts Sixth as they passed through Baltimore, it fired his blood. "This account excited me greatly," Mr. Randall writes. "I had long been absent from my native city, and the startling event there inflamed my mind. That night I could not sleep, for my nerves were all unstrung, and I could not dismiss what I had read in the paper from my mind. About midnight I arose, lit a candle, and went to my desk. Some powerful spirit appeared to possess me, and almost involuntarily I proceeded to write the song of *My Maryland*. I remember that the idea appeared to take shape first as music in the brain—some wild air that I cannot now recall. The whole poem of nine stanzas, as originally written, was dashed off rapidly when once begun."

As Doctor Matthews well says, there is often a feeling afloat in the minds of men, undefined and vague for want of one to give it form, and held in solution, as it were, until a chance word dropped in the ear of a poet suddenly crystallizes this feeling into song, in which all may see clearly and sharply





*THE INVASION OF MARYLAND*  
*(View from Maryland Heights)*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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reflected what in their own thought was shapeless and hazy. It was young Randall's fortune to be the instrument through which the South spoke, and, by a natural reaction, his burning lines helped "fire the Southern heart."

The form of the poem was suggested by Mangan's *Karamanian Exile*,—

" I see thee ever in my dreams,  
Karaman!  
Thy hundred hills, thy thousand streams,  
Karaman, O Karaman!  
As when thy gold-bright morning gleams,  
As when the deepening sunset seams  
With lines of light thy hills and streams,  
Karaman!  
So now thou loomest on my dreams,  
Karaman, O Karaman!"

The previous use of this form, which is perhaps the most effective possible for a battle hymn, by no means detracts from Randall's stirring poem.

The poem would never have had great effect, however, if it had not been fortunate in drafting to its service a splendid piece of music. Miss Hattie Cary, of Baltimore, afterward the wife of Professor H. M. Martin, of Johns-Hopkins University, brought about the wedding which enabled Randall's song to reach every camp-fire of the Southern armies. "The Glee Club was to hold its meeting

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in our parlors one evening early in June," she writes, "and my sister Jennie, being the only musical member of the family, had charge of the program on the occasion. With a schoolgirl's eagerness to score a success, she resolved to secure some new and ardent expression of feelings that were by this time wrought up to the point of explosion. In vain she searched through her stock of songs and airs—nothing seemed intense enough to suit her. Aroused by her tone of despair, I came to the rescue with the suggestion that she should adapt the words of *Maryland, my Maryland*, which had been constantly on my lips since the appearance of the lyric a few days before in the South. I produced the paper and began declaiming the verses. '*Lauriger Horatius*,' she exclaimed, and in a flash the immortal song found a voice in the stirring air so perfectly adapted to it. That night when her contralto voice rang out the stanzas, the refrain rolled forth from every throat without pause or preparation; and the enthusiasm communicated itself with such effect to the crowd assembled beneath our windows as to endanger seriously the liberties of the party."

This air was originally an old German student melody used for a lovely German lyric, *Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum*, which Longfellow has numbered among his translations. The first verse is as follows,—



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“ O hemlock tree! O hemlock tree! how faithful are  
thy branches!  
Green not only in summer time,  
But in the winter's frost and rime!  
O hemlock tree! O hemlock tree! how faithful are  
thy branches! ”

Some one has well said that the transmigration of tunes is a large and fertile subject. The capturing of the air of a jolly college song and harnessing it to the service of a fiery battle hymn may seem very strange, but not so to those who are familiar with the adventures which a tune has often undergone.

This song was not only popular through the South, but so stately and pleasing was the melody that it was often sung in the North. A soldier relates: “ I remember hearing it sung under circumstances that for the time made me fancy it was the sweetest song I ever listened to. Our command had just reached Frederick City, Maryland, after a distressing forced march, and going into bivouac, the staff to which I was attached took up their quarters on the piazza of a lonely mansion, and there, wrapping themselves in their blankets, with their saddles for pillows, sought needed repose. Sleep would not come to my eyelids. The night was a delicious one; it was warm, but a slight breeze was stirring, and the sky was clear, and the stars shone brilliantly. The stillness was profound,

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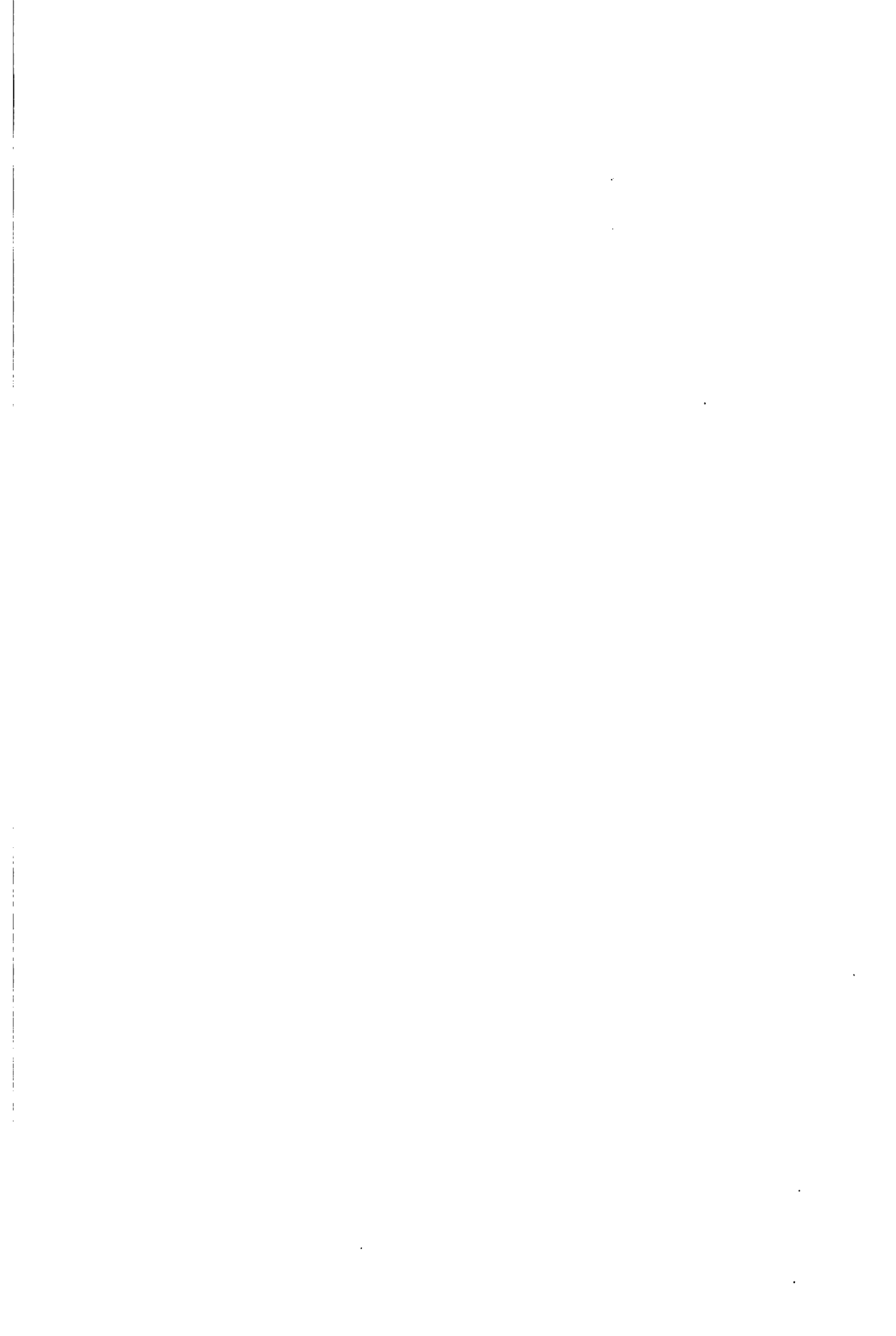
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every one around me was asleep, when suddenly there fell upon my ears the song:—

‘ The despot’s heel is on thy shore,  
Maryland!’

The voice was a mezzo-soprano, full, round, and clear, and the charming melody was sung with infinite tenderness and delicacy of shading. I listened almost breathlessly, for it was the first time I had heard the song, and as it was ended, I arose for the purpose of ascertaining who it was that sang so sweetly. I found her in the person of a plump negro girl of about sixteen years, with a face blacker than the smoke in Vulcan’s smithy.”

A delightful contrast to the attack of the mob on the Massachusetts Sixth, in Baltimore, in 1861, was furnished recently when the historic Sixth from Boston passed through Baltimore on their way to the South to take part in the invasion of Cuba. Baltimore gave herself up to seeing how splendidly she could receive the regiment that had once been mobbed in her streets. They were received at the station by the Mayor, the school-children were drawn up in line along the route of march, and the soldiers from Massachusetts were pelted with flowers instead of stones and bullets. Each soldier was given a little box containing cake and fruit, and a love letter, while a great motto met their eyes which said: “ Let the welcome of ’98 efface the memory of ’61.”





*ULYSSES SIMPSON GRANT*

*ALL QUIET ALONG THE POTOMAC.*

"All quiet along the Potomac," they say,  
"Except now and then a stray picket  
Is shot, as he walks on his beat, to and fro,  
By a rifleman hid in the thicket.  
'Tis nothing: a private or two now and then  
Will not count in the news of the battle;  
Not an officer lost, only one of the men  
Moaning out all alone the death-rattle."

All quiet along the Potomac to-night,  
Where the soldiers lie peacefully dreaming;  
Their tents in the rays of the clear autumn moon,  
Or the light of the watchfires, are gleaming.  
A tremulous sigh, as the gentle night-wind  
Through the forest leaves softly is creeping:  
While stars up above, with their glittering eyes,  
Keep guard,—for the army is sleeping.

There's only the sound of the lone sentry's tread,  
As he tramps from the rock to the fountain,  
And thinks of the two in the low trundle-bed,  
Far away in the cot on the mountain.  
His musket falls slack, his face, dark and grim,  
Grows gentle with memories tender,  
As he mutters a prayer for the children asleep;  
For their mother—may heaven defend her!

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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The moon seems to shine just as brightly as then,  
That night when the love yet unspoken  
Leaped up to his lips, when low, murmured vows  
Were pledged to be ever unbroken;  
Then drawing his sleeve roughly over his eyes,  
He dashes off tears that are welling,  
And gathers his gun closer up to his side,  
As if to keep down the heart swelling.

He passes the fountain, the blasted pine tree,  
The footstep is lagging and weary,  
Yet onward he goes, through the broad belt of  
light,  
Toward the shade of the forest so dreary.  
Hark! was it the night-wind that rustled the  
leaves,  
Was it moonlight so wondrously flashing?  
It looked like a rifle — "Ha! Mary, good-bye,"  
And the lifeblood is ebbing and plashing.

All quiet along the Potomac to-night,  
No sound save the rush of the river;  
While soft falls the dew on the face of the dead,  
The picket's off duty forever.  
Hark! was it the night-wind that rustled the  
leaves,  
Was it moonlight so wondrously flashing?  
It looked like a rifle — "Ha! Mary, good-bye,"  
And the lifeblood is ebbing and plashing.

—*Ethel Lynn Beers.*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Mrs. Beers's right to the authorship of this famous song has been very severely contested, but there seems to be no reason now to doubt that the really fine poem is hers. Though there have been numerous claimants for its authorship, the one who has come nearest to carrying the day is, strange to say, a Southerner. It is curious indeed that a war song should be claimed by both sides, but that has been the story of this song. This Southerner is Lamar Fontaine. Mr. Fontaine was born at Gay Hill, Texas. Twenty years before the war his father moved to Austin, Texas, and was secretary to General Lamar, for whom the son was named. When the war broke out this young Lamar Fontaine became a major in the Confederate Army. Some time in 1862, when the poem *All Quiet Along the Potomac* appeared in a Southern newspaper, Lamar Fontaine's name was attached to it. Davidson, the author of *Living Writers of the South*, wrote to Fontaine in regard to the authorship of this hymn, and in replying Fontaine said: "The poem in question was written by me while our army lay at Fairfax Courthouse, or rather the greater portion, in and around that place. On the second day of August, 1861, I first read it to a few of my messmates in Company I, Second Virginia Cavalry. During the month of August I gave away many manuscript copies to soldiers, and some few to ladies in and about Leesburg, Loudon County,

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

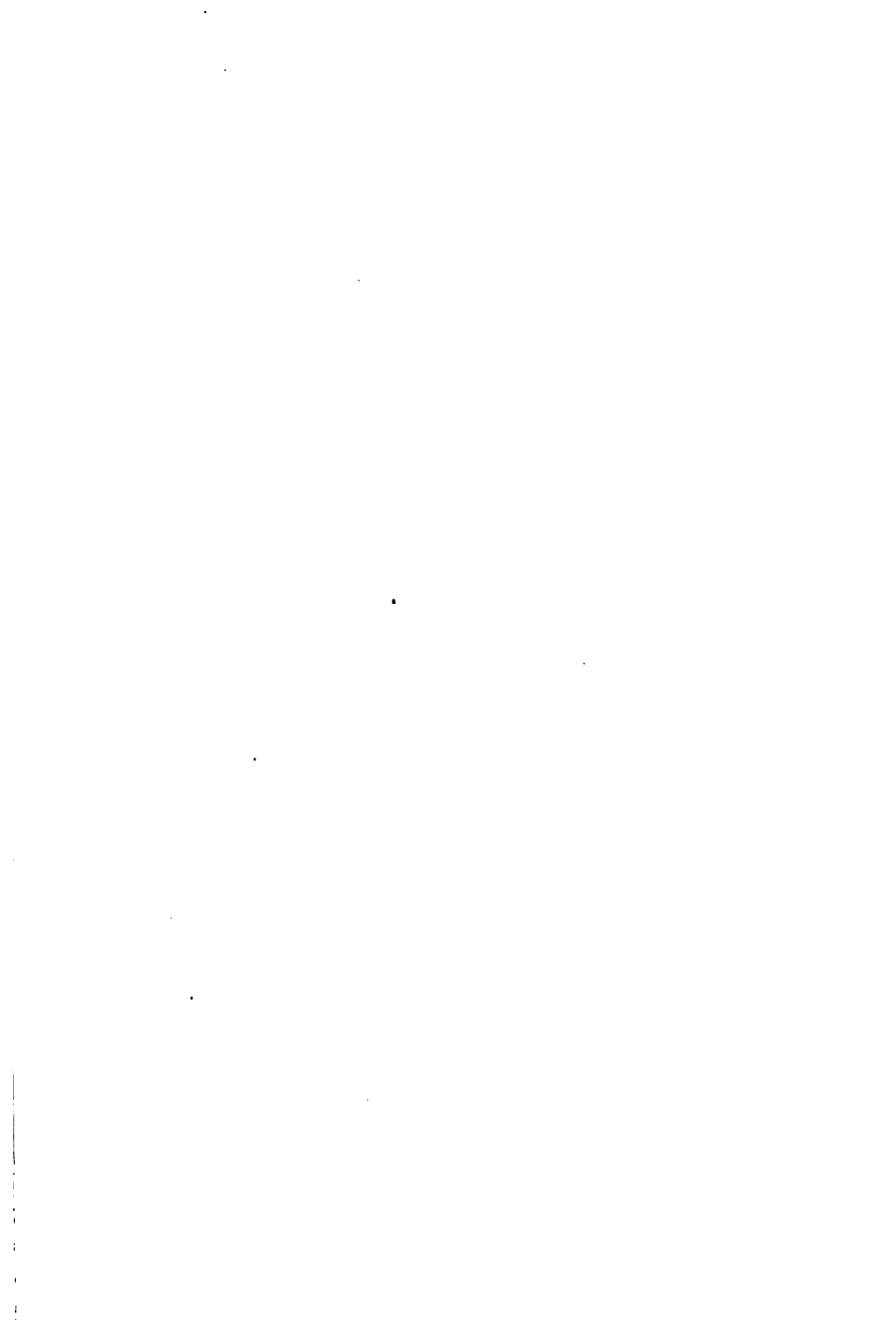
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Virginia. In fact, I think that most of the men belonging to the Second Virginia, then commanded by Colonel Radford, were aware of the fact that I was the author of it. I never saw the piece in print until just before the battle of Leesburg (October 21, 1861), and then it was in a Northern paper with the notice that it had been found on the dead body of a picket. I hope the controversy between myself and others in regard to *All Quiet Along the Potomac To-night*, will soon be forever settled. I wrote it, and the world knows it; and they may howl over it, and give it to as many authors as they please. I wrote it, and I am a Southern man, and I am proud of the title, and am glad that my children will know that the South was the birthplace of their fathers, from their generation back to the seventh."

Another Southern man, however, and a distinguished one, puts a very different look on the case. Mr. Chandler Harris of Georgia writes a letter for insertion in Mr. Davidson's volume in the course of which he says: "After a careful and impartial investigation of all the facts in my reach, I have come to the conclusion that Mrs. Beers, and not Mr. Fontaine, wrote the poem in question. My reasons for believing that Mr. Fontaine is not the author of *All Quiet*, are several:

"1. The poem appeared in *Harper's Weekly* for November 30, 1861, as *The Picket Guard*, over the initials of Mrs. Ethel Beers of New York.







*MOUNT VERNON*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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" 2. It did not make its appearance in any Southern paper until about April or May, 1862.

" 3. It was published as having been found in the pocket of a dead soldier on the battlefield. It is more than probable that the dead soldier was a Federal, and that the poem had been clipped from *Harper's*.

" 4. I have compared the poem in *Harper's* with the same as it first appeared in the Southern papers, and find the punctuation to be precisely the same.

" 5. Mr. Fontaine, so far as I have seen, has given elsewhere no evidence of the powers displayed in that poem. I, however, remember noticing in the *Charleston Courier*, in 1863, or 1864, a 'Parodie' (as Mr. L. F. had it) on Mrs. Norton's *Bingen on the Rhine*, which was positively the poorest affair I ever saw. Mr. Fontaine had just come out of a Federal prison, and some irresponsible editor, in speaking of this 'Parodie' remarked that the poet's Pegasus had probably worn his wings out against the walls of his Northern dungeon.

" You probably know me well enough to acquit me, in this instance at least, of the charge of prejudice. I am jealous of Southern literature, and if I have any partiality in the matter at all, it is in favor of Major Lamar Fontaine's claim. I should like to claim this poem for that gentleman; I should be glad to claim it as a specimen of Southern literature, but the facts in the case do not warrant it."

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

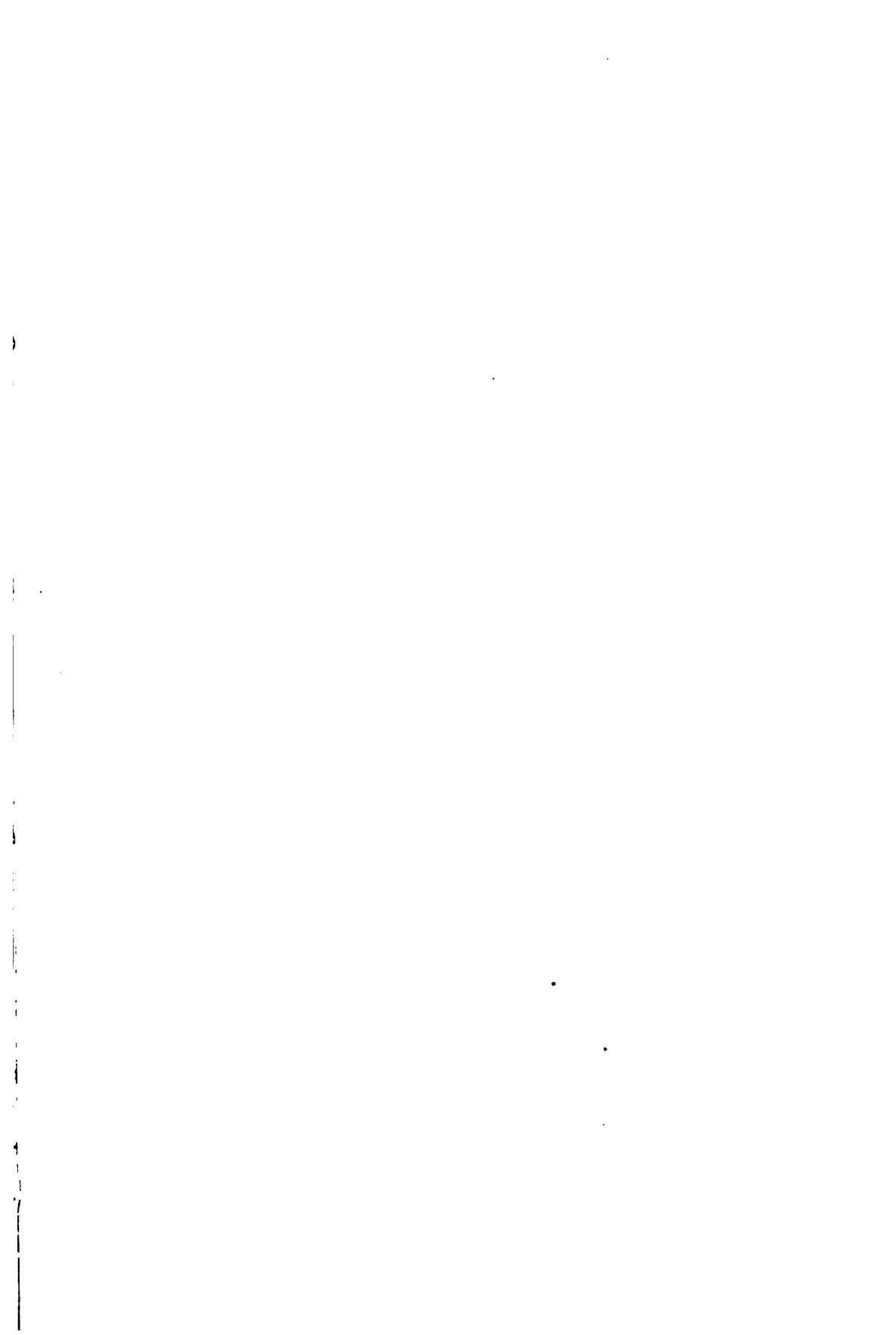
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Mr. Alfred H. Guernsey, for many years editor of *Harper's Magazine*, bears testimony that the poem, bearing the title *The Picket Guard*, appeared in *Harper's Weekly* for November 30, 1861. He further declares that it was furnished by Mrs. Ethel Lynn Beers, whom he describes as "a lady whom I think incapable of palming off as her own any production of another."

Mrs. Beers was born in Goshen, New York, and her maiden name was Ethelinda Eliot. She was a direct descendant of John Eliot, the heroic apostle to the Indians. When she began to write for the newspapers she signed her contributions "Ethel Lynn," a *nom de plume* very naturally suggested by her Christian name. After her marriage, she added her husband's name, and over the signature of Ethel Lynn Beers published many poems. In her later years Mrs. Beers resided in Orange, New Jersey, where she died October 10, 1879, on the very day on which her poems, among them *All Quiet Along the Potomac*, were issued in book form.

There has never been any contest as to the music of the song, which was composed by J. Dayton, the leader of the band of the First Connecticut Artillery.







*STEPHEN COLLINS FOSTER*

*THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME.*

Way down upon de Suwanee ribber,  
Far, far away,  
Dere's wha my heart is turning ebber,  
Dere's wha de old folks stay.  
All up and down de whole creation,  
Sadly I roam,  
Still longin' for de old plantation,  
And for de old folks at home.  
All de world am sad and dreary,  
Eb'rywhere I roam.  
Oh! darkies, how my heart grows  
weary,  
Far from de old folks at home.

All round de little farm I wander'd  
When I was young,  
Den many happy days I squander'd,  
Many de songs I sung.  
When I was playin' wid my brudder,  
Happy was I,  
Oh! take me to my kind old mudder,  
Dere let me live and die.

One little hut among de bushes,  
One dat I love,  
Still sadly to my mem'ry rushes,  
No matter where I rove.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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When will I see de bees a-humming  
All round de comb?  
When will I hear de banjo tumming  
Down in my good old home?

—*Stephen Collins Foster.*

Stephen Collins Foster has a very tender place in the hearts of the American people. His songs are marked by a tenderness and pathos which goes straight to the fountain of tears. Foster was born on the 4th of July, 1826, at Lawrenceburg, Pennsylvania. His native town was founded by his father, but was many years ago merged into the city of Pittsburg.

Young Foster had good opportunities for education in an academy at Allegheny, Pennsylvania, and afterward at Jefferson College. He had a genius for music almost from his birth; while yet but a baby he could wake sweet harmonies from any musical instrument he touched. At the age of seven he had mastered the flageolet without a teacher, and had already become quite proficient on the piano and the flute. He had a clear though not a very strong voice, but one that was under perfect control. As a lad he wrote his first composition, a waltz, which was rendered at a school commencement. The composition, coming from so young a boy, attracted a good deal of attention. His talent for music was so marked that he became



## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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the leader throughout his school days of all musical affairs among the students, and he was the center of every serenading party or concert. To compose the words and music of a song was his chief delight. He wrote the words first, and then hummed them over and over till he found notes that would express them properly. While he was in the academy a minstrel troupe came to town and he attended their performance. He succeeded in having one of his songs introduced into their program the next night, which greatly pleased the local public. This was *Oh, Susanna*, which was afterward published in 1842, and immediately gained great popularity. This aroused his musical enthusiasm, and he offered still other songs to publishers, and finally determined to devote himself to musical composition for a livelihood. He attended all the negro camp meetings he could reach, listened to the songs of colored people, gathering new ideas, and this faithful reproduction of what was up to that time an undiscovered mine of musical possibilities, was the secret of his great success as a writer of negro melodies.

Foster had a deeply poetic soul, and would go into the wildest ecstasy over a pretty melody or a bit of rich harmony. There is a certain vein of tender retrospect in nearly all his songs. Take *Old Dog Tray*, of which a hundred and twenty-five thousand copies were sold the first eighteen months after

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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publication. There is something exceedingly tender about it:—

“ The morn of life is past, and ev’ning comes at last,  
It brings me a dream of a once happy day,  
Of merry forms I’ve seen upon the village green,  
Sporting with my old dog Tray.

Old dog Tray’s ever faithful,  
Grief cannot drive him away,  
He’s gentle, he is kind; I’ll never, never  
find

A better friend than Old Dog Tray! ”

How often we say one to another, “ It is good to be missed.” But no one has ever voiced that universal feeling of the heart as perfectly as has Foster in his popular song, *Do They Miss Me at Home?*

“ Do they miss me at home, do they miss me?

’Twould be an assurance most dear,  
To know that this moment some lov’d one  
Were saying, ‘ I wish he were here;  
To feel that the group at the fireside  
Were thinking of me as I roam;  
Oh, yes, ’twould be joy beyond measure  
To know that they miss me at home. ”

Foster was a most prolific writer, producing between two and three hundred popular songs, furnishing both the words and the music. Among his best known war songs are *We’ve a Million in the*





*"Still longin' for de old plantation,  
And for de old folks at home"*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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*Field, Stand by the Flag, For the Dear Old Flag I Die, and Was my Brother in the Battle?* His most famous song, however, and one which he hoped would rival *Home, Sweet Home*,—a song of which the soldiers amid the loneliness and homesickness of camp never grew weary—was *The Old Folks at Home*. For the time it has been before the public, it is probably the best known song in the world. Four hundred thousand copies of it were sold the first few years after it was written. The tune has crossed all oceans and become a favorite with martial bands of music in every region of the earth.

The author of this sweet old melody that touches the heart of all peoples closed his life in great sorrow and poverty. In the days of his youth and early manhood he was greatly beloved by all who knew him. He had multitudes of friends and in character was modest, unassuming, and almost as shy as a girl. He was happily married in 1854, in Pittsburg, but the bright prospects which he then had of a happy home life were eclipsed through his yielding to the appetite for strong drink. In 1860 his dissipation separated him from his family, and he settled in New York City, where for awhile he kept an old down-town grocery on the corner of Hester and Christy Streets. Some of his most famous songs were composed in the back room of that old grocery on pieces of brown wrapping-paper. Many of these songs that under the impelling force of his

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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appetite for drink were sold for a few dollars, often brought hundreds and even thousands of dollars to the purchasers.

On the 12th of January, 1864, he was injured by a fall, and died on the following day in Bellevue Hospital, friendless, and in abject poverty. This brilliant man whose melodies were sung by hundreds and thousands of tongues, and to whom a single publisher had paid more than twenty thousand dollars of royalties on his music, died lonely in a great city, and his body was carried back to his native State through the charity of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. His funeral, however, was attended by an immense concourse of people, comprising both the rich and poor of Pittsburg who remembered his brighter days, and who felt that the city was honored by his genius. Musicians attended in large force, and the songs they sang above his grave were his own melodies.







*FRANCIS MILES FINCH*



### *THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.*

By the flow of the inland river,  
    Whence the fleets of iron have fled,  
Where the blades of the grave-grass quiver,  
    Asleep are the ranks of the dead;  
        Under the sod and the dew,  
        Waiting the judgment day;  
    Under the one the Blue;  
    Under the other the Gray.

These, in the robings of glory;  
    Those, in the gloom of defeat;  
All, with the battle-blood gory,  
    In the dusk of eternity meet;  
        Under the sod and the dew,  
        Waiting the judgment day;  
    Under the laurel, the Blue;  
    Under the willow, the Gray.

From the silence of sorrowful hours  
    The desolate mourners go,  
Lovingly laden with flowers  
    Alike for the friend and foe;  
        Under the sod and the dew,  
        Waiting the judgment day;  
    Under the roses, the Blue;  
    Under the lilies, the Gray.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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So, with an equal splendor,  
The morning sun-rays fall,  
With a touch impartially tender,  
On the blossoms blooming for all;  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment day;  
Brodered with gold, the Blue;  
Mellowed with gold, the Gray.

So when the summer calleth  
On forest and field of grain,  
With an equal murmur falleth  
The cooling drip of the rain;  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment day;  
Wet with the rain, the Blue;  
Wet with the rain, the Gray.

Sadly, but not with upbraiding,  
The generous deed was done;  
In the storm of the years that are fading,  
No braver battle was won;  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment day;  
Under the blossoms, the Blue;  
Under the garlands, the Gray.

No more shall the war cry sever,  
Or the winding rivers be red;  
They banish our anger forever,  
When they laurel the graves of our dead!

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Under the sod and the dew  
Waiting the judgment day;  
Love and tears for the Blue;  
Tears and love for the Gray.

—*Francis Miles Finch.*

Francis Miles Finch, the author of *The Blue and the Gray*, was born in Ithaca, New York, in 1827. He graduated with honor from Yale College in 1845, in his eighteenth year. He studied law and became a practicing lawyer of fine reputation at Ithaca, being elected an associate judge of the Court of Appeals of the State of New York in 1881. In July, 1853, he read a poem at the centennial celebration of the Linonian Society of Yale, in which several lyrics were introduced, including one on Nathan Hale, the patriot spy of the Revolution. This at once achieved wide popularity. His one poem, however, which will carry his name down to the future is *The Blue and the Gray*.

Two years after the war of the Rebellion there appeared in the New York *Tribune*, the following item: "The women of Columbus, Mississippi, animated by nobler sentiments than many of their sisters, have shown themselves impartial in their offerings made to the memory of the dead. They strewed flowers alike on the graves of the Confederate and of the National soldiers." This, coming at a time when a great deal of the soreness of defeat and the bitter-

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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ness aroused by the war still remained, seemed to be the first indication of an era of more kindly feeling and a more generous Christian spirit.

The eye of a poet is always seeing the poetic possibilities in current incidents, and when Mr. Finch saw this news item in his favorite daily paper, he not only saw the romance and pathos of the situation, but thought that such an exhibition of generosity should be at once met and welcomed in the same temper. It was out of that impulse that *The Blue and the Gray* grew into being. Mr. Finch sent it to the *Atlantic Monthly*, where it was published in the September number of 1867, prefaced with the news extract from the *Tribune* which had suggested it. The poem at once aroused marked attention and became popular throughout the entire country, but especially so in the South.

John Hutchinson was paying a visit to Vinnie Ream, the sculptor, who designed the General Thomas monument in April, 1874. Among the guests were three ex-Confederate generals. At her request Hutchinson sang *The Blue and the Gray*; when he had finished singing the song, the three Confederates rose simultaneously, and one after the other shook his hand with great heartiness. "Mr. Hutchinson," they said, "that song is a passport to you anywhere in the South." Alexander H. Stephens, the ex-vice-president of the Confederacy, upon hearing from these gentlemen of Mr. Hutchinson's





*GRANT'S MONUMENT*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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singing, sent a special request to him to come to his hotel and sing *The Blue and the Gray*. He was wheeled into the room in his chair to listen to the song. At the conclusion he declared that the country was safe when such sentiments became popular.

Mr. Hutchinson himself composed the music for Finch's famous song. At the great Atlanta Exposition in 1895, Mr. Hutchinson made the journey to Atlanta by special invitation of the management, and was present on "Blue and Gray" Day. He says of the experience: "Who can picture my thoughts on that notable occasion? To think that, at last, the man who had known what it was to be maligned and buffeted in the South, should be received with honor in its chief city, and witness the effects of reconstruction in the great cotton country! It was a 'New South,' indeed, that I saw. And there, to the great gathering of Union and Confederate soldiers, I sang the song that had so often in later years been a key to open the Southern heart to the Hutchinsons:—

" ' No more shall the war cry sever,  
Or the winding rivers be red;  
They banish our anger forever,  
When they laurel the graves of our dead!  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment day;  
Love and tears for the Blue;  
Tears and love for the Gray.' "

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Perhaps no one thing has done so much to soften the bitterness which civil war left in our country as the beautiful ceremonies connected with Memorial Day. As the years have gone on, and every Memorial Day the Southern soldiers have been more and more wont to cover the graves of their dead foemen with wreaths of Southern flowers, and again and again gray-haired veterans from both the "Blue and the Gray" have met beside the Hudson to do honor to the great commander who at Appomattox said, "Let us have peace," the coldness of suspicion and distrust have blown away, until, now that the boys from the South as well as from the North have marched together again under the old flag to fight a foreign foe, we see eye to eye.

The birth of Decoration Day deserves to be held in everlasting remembrance. Mrs. John A. Logan, the wife of the great Volunteer General, in company with some friends, made a trip to Richmond in March, 1868. Mrs. Logan was particularly impressed by the evidences of desolation and destruction which she witnessed everywhere, but which seemed to her to be particularly emphasized by the innumerable graves which filled the cemeteries, many of which were those of Confederate soldiers. In the summer before they had all been decorated by wreaths of flowers and little flags, all of which were faded, but which seemed to the tender-hearted woman to be a mute evidence of the devotion and



## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

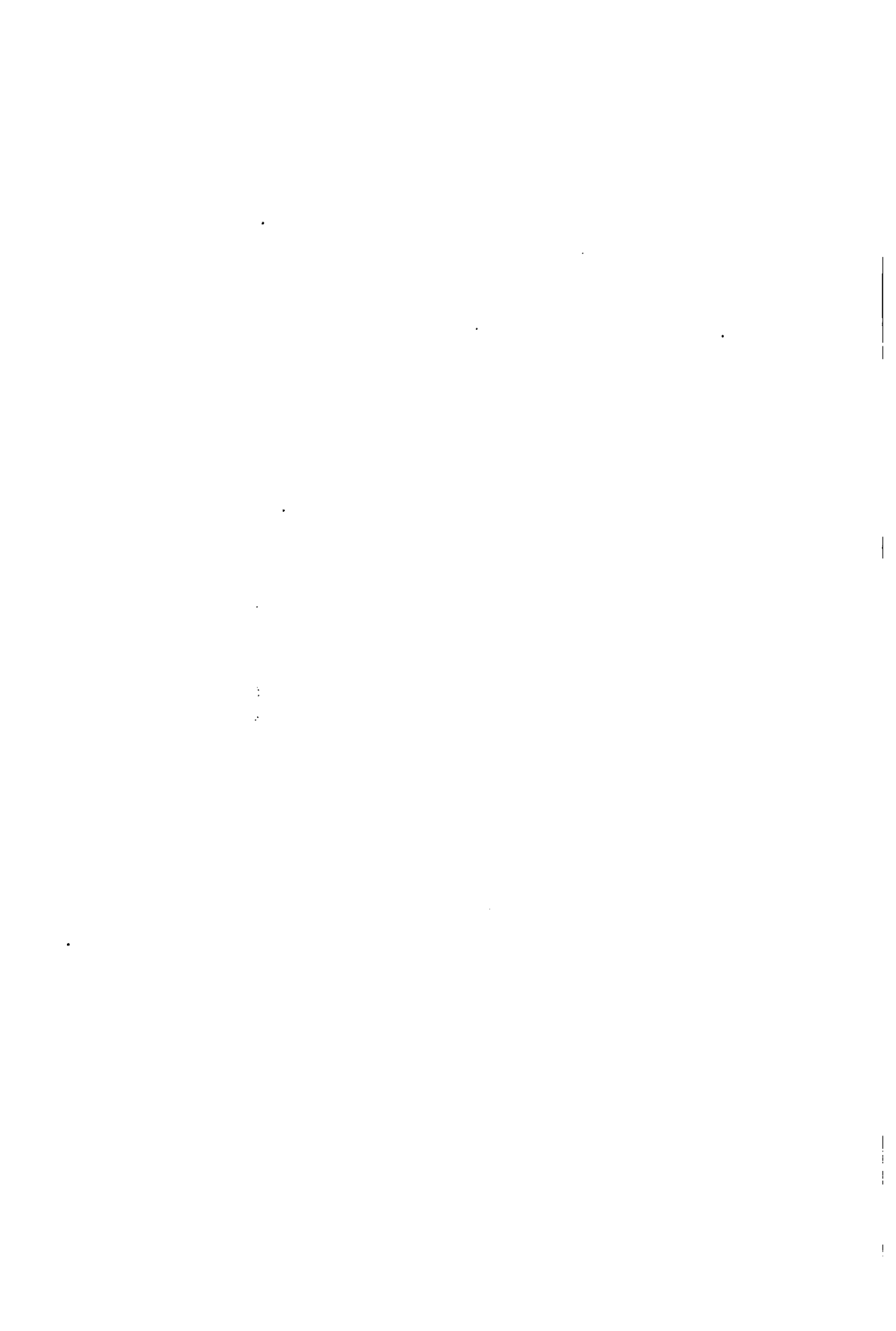
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gratitude of those people to the men who had lost their lives to their cause.

On speaking of this to General Logan, on her return, he said it was a beautiful custom and one worthy to be copied, and, as he was then Commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, that he intended issuing an order, asking the entire people of the nation to inaugurate the custom of annually decorating the graves of the patriotic dead as a memorial of their sacrifice and devotion to country. He issued the first order for May 30, 1868, and it was so enthusiastically received that Congress made it a national holiday.

It will thus be seen, that Memorial Day was born out of a partnership between a woman's tender heart and a man's noble purpose. It is also sweet to reflect that South and North united at its birth. The Southern mourners were the first to cover the graves of their dead with flowers, as they were the first to decorate the graves of their fallen foes; while their Northern brothers led in calling to it national attention, and made the custom as wide as the country. From henceforth we all unite in the closing couplet of Finch's noble song:—

“ Love and tears for the Blue;  
Tears and love for the Gray.”







*JAMES THOMSON*

### *RULE, BRITANNIA.*

When Britain first, at heaven's command,  
Arose from out the azure main,  
This was the charter, the charter of the land,  
And guardian angels sung the strain:  
Rule, Britannia,  
Britannia rule the waves,  
Britons never shall be slaves.

The nations, not so blest as thee,  
Must in their turn to tyrants fall,  
While thou shalt flourish, great and free,  
The dread and envy of them all.  
Rule, Britannia,  
Britannia rule the waves,  
Britons never shall be slaves.

Still more majestic shalt thou rise,  
More dreadful from each foreign stroke;  
As the loud blast that rends the skies  
Serves but to root thy native oak.  
Rule, Britannia,  
Britannia rule the waves,  
Britons never shall be slaves.

Thee, haughty tyrants ne'er shall tame;  
All their attempts to bend thee down  
Will but arouse thy generous flame,—  
But work their woe and thy renown.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Rule, Britannia,  
Britannia rule the waves,  
Britons never shall be slaves.

To thee belongs the rural reign,  
Thy cities shall with commerce shine;  
All thine shall be the subject main,  
And every shore encircles thine.  
Rule, Britannia,  
Britannia rule the waves,  
Britons never shall be slaves.

The Muses, still with freedom found,  
Shall to thy happy coasts repair,  
Blessed Isle! With matchless beauty crowned,  
And manly hearts to guard the fair.  
Rule, Britannia,  
Britannia rule the waves,  
Britons never shall be slaves.

—James Thomson.

The poet Southey declares that this noble ode in honor of Great Britain will be the political hymn of that country as long as she maintains her political power. It had a peculiar origin. Dr. Thomas Arne, the great musical composer, composed the music for his *Masque of Alfred*, and it was first performed at Cliefden House, near Maidenhead, on August 1, 1740. Cliefden was then the residence of Frederick, Prince of Wales, and the occasion was

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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to commemorate the accession of George I. and in honor of the birthday of young Princess Augusta. Doctor Arne afterward altered it into an opera, and it was so performed at Drury Lane Theater on March 20, 1745, for the benefit of Mrs. Arne. In the advertisement of that performance Doctor Arne specially announces that *Rule Britannia*, which he calls "a celebrated ode," will be sung. We judge from this that it had even at that time gained great popularity.

Dr. Thomas Arne himself had a very interesting story. He was the son of a wealthy upholsterer in London and was born in 1704. He was educated at Eton, and his father intended him for the law, but while in school he had such a craving for music that he would often dress himself in servant's livery and sit in the upper gallery at the theaters. He learned to play with the strings of his spinet muffled in a handkerchief. One day his father attended a musicale at the house of a friend, and to his great astonishment and disgust, his own son occupied the place of first violinist. The father, however, decided to make the best of it, and not to fight against nature. From that time on the music-loving boy was allowed to play at home, and it was not very long before the whole family were proud of his achievements. He was the first English composer to rival Italian music in compass and difficulty. Doctor Arne lived and died absorbed in musical tones. Death

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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came to him in the midst of his work, March 5, 1778. While attempting to illustrate a musical idea, he sang an air in faltering tones; the sound grew fainter, until song and breathing ceased together. Perhaps if he could have chosen his way to die this would have pleased him best of all.

The words for this *Masque of Alfred*, in which *Rule Britannia* appears, were written jointly by James Thomson, the author of *The Seasons*, and David Mallet, a Scotch tutor. It is not certain who was the author of these verses, Thomson, or Mallet. During Thomson's life in the newspapers of the day he alone was mentioned as the author. He died in 1751, and Mallet brought out, in 1755, his *Masque of Britannia*, at Drury Lane Theater, and it was received with great applause. The *Monthly Review*, a Scottish magazine of the time, in noticing it says: "*Britannia*, a Masque set to music by Doctor Arne. Mr. David Mallet is its reputed author. His design is to animate the sons of Britannia to vindicate their country's rights, and avenge her wrongs." On the whole, the weight of evidence seems to be in favor of the famous ode having been written by Thomson, but no one will ever be able to prove certainly as to whether it originated in his brain or Mallet's.

*Rule Britannia* soon became a favorite with the Jacobite party. Many parodies of it have been written, some of which were very famous in their time. One is to be found in *The True Royalist*, a







*THE TOWER OF LONDON*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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collection of English songs long since out of print,  
which is perhaps worth repeating here: —

- “ Britannia, rouse at heav'n's command!  
And crown thy native Prince again;  
Then Peace shall bless thy happy land,  
And Plenty pour in from the main:  
Then shalt thou be — Britannia thou shalt be  
From home and foreign tyrants free.
- “ Behold, great Charles! thy godlike son,  
With majesty and sweetness crown'd;  
His worth th' admiring world doth own,  
And fame's loud trump proclaims the sound.  
Thy captain him, Britannia, him declare!  
Of kings and heroes he's the heir.
- “ The second hope young Hero claims,  
Th' extended empire of the main;  
His breast with fire and courage flames,  
With Nature's bounds to fix thy reign.  
He (Neptune-like), Britannia, will defy  
All but the thunder of the sky.
- “ The happiest states must yield to thee,  
When free from dire corruption's thrall;  
Of land and sea thou'lt Emp'ror be,  
And ride triumphant round the ball:  
Britannia, unite! Britannia must prevail,  
Her powerful hand must guide the scale.”

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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There is still another parody, also once very famous, contained in the book referred to. The first verse is as follows,—

“ When our great Prince, with his choice band,  
Arriv'd from o'er the azure main,  
Heav'n smil'd with pleasure, with pleasure on the  
land,  
And guardian angels sung this strain:  
Go, brave hero; brave hero, boldly go,  
And wrest thy scepter from thy foe.”

In letting the parodies die, and in retaining the original song, succeeding generations have manifestly ensured the survival of the fittest. There has perhaps been no time since the Revolutionary War when Americans have listened to *Rule Britannia* with as sympathetic ears as since the beginning of our war with Spain. The almost universal sympathy expressed for us by all classes in England has served to bring the two nations closer together than a hundred years of ordinary intercourse. Whether or no it brings about the Anglo-American alliance so widely discussed, it has made *Rule Britannia* a grateful song to patriotic Americans.







*OTTO EDUARD LEOPOLD VON BISMARCK-SCHÖNHAUSEN*

### *THE WATCH ON THE RHINE.*

Like gathering thunder spreads a cry,  
Like clash of arms when battle's nigh,  
The Rhine! there's danger to the Rhine!  
Who'll shield it from the foe's design?  
    Dear Fatherland, no fear be thine,  
    Dear Fatherland, no fear be thine,  
    Steadfast and true, we guard our German Rhine!  
    Steadfast and true, we guard our German Rhine!

The tidings flash through million hearts,  
From million flaming eyes it darts;  
Our valiant sons, in danger strong,  
Will guard our hallow'd stream from wrong!

What though the foe my life should quench,  
I know thy wave will ne'er be French;  
And ample as thy tide of blue,  
The living stream of heroes true.

The shades of heroes past and gone  
Upon our deeds are looking down;  
By home and Fatherland we swear  
The foeman from thy banks to scare.

While through my veins the life is poured,  
As long as I can hold a sword,  
No stranger shall our land despoil,  
No foeman desecrate our soil.

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Proclaim the vow from shore to shore,  
Let banners wave and cannons roar,  
The Rhine! The lovely German Rhine,  
To keep it Germans all combine.

Dear Fatherland, all fear resign,  
Dear Fatherland, all fear resign,  
Stout hearts and true will keep watch on the  
Rhine,  
Stout hearts and true will keep watch on the  
Rhine.

—*Max Schneckenburger.*

(*Translated by Lady Natalie MacFarren.*)

*The Watch on the Rhine* was written by Max Schneckenburger in 1840, and though not so fine a poem from a literary standpoint as many others that have embodied the same sentiment, it has about it that nameless charm which has enthralled the popular heart. Although it was thirty years old in 1870, it then struck its first great popularity and became by all odds the most popular war song in Germany.

Schneckenburger, like many another hymn writer, owes his entire reputation to a single song. He was an obscure Swabian merchant, quiet and unassuming, who never did anything in his life to attract public attention except to write this hymn. But it might well be said that in order to make a man's name immortal he need not do anything else than



## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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write one song that voices the soul's ambition or the heart's longing of a great people. Max Schneckenburger is perhaps the only writer of a popular national hymn who is not the author of other lesser songs; for we have not been able to discover that he ever published anything except *The Watch on the Rhine*. He died in Berne, in 1849, without the slightest thought that his song would ever make his name famous. Long after his death a handsome monument was built above his grave at Thalheim, in Wurtemberg.

The music for *The Watch on the Rhine* was composed by Carl Wilhelm, who first arranged it as a chorus for male voices. Wilhelm was a music teacher and conductor. He was born at Schmalkalden and died in 1873. Carl Hauser says that Carl Wilhelm never dreamed of *The Watch on the Rhine* turning out to be a national hymn at the time he composed the music. Wilhelm was a thorough Bohemian, a sort of typical German bandmaster, who was accustomed to write music on lager-beer tables amid the fumes of smoking pipes. He was not counted as a great musician, except among a few bosom friends, and was satisfied to get a very small price for his compositions, and what he received in that way usually went to pay his beer bills.

On a certain occasion a schoolmaster who was a friend of Wilhelm asked him as a personal favor to compose a chorus for his pupils to sing on Com-

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mencement Day. The school-teacher saw the value of the music, and treacherously sold it. Thousands of copies went all over the world, but Wilhelm received no benefit therefrom. But after his music became famous, in 1870, tardy recognition was granted him, and in 1871 he was granted an annual pension of seven hundred and fifty dollars. He only lived two years to enjoy it.

In the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, *The Watch on the Rhine* had for a time a rival in a song the first verse of which ran:—

“ It never shall be France’s,  
The free, the German Rhine,  
Until its broad expanse is  
Its last defender’s shrine.”

But when Von Moltke and old King William, with Bismarck and the Crown Prince Frederick, pushed their armies over the Rhine toward Paris, the war-like *Watch on the Rhine* soon distanced all other songs in the affections of the soldiers, and became the song of the nation.

Perhaps this martial song was never sung under more splendid circumstances than at the unveiling of the great National Monument inaugurated in 1883 to commemorate the victories in the Franco-Prussian war and the foundation of the new German Empire in 1870-’71. This magnificent monument stands on the bank of the Rhine opposite the beau-





*NATIONAL MONUMENT, NIEDERWALD*

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tiful town of Bingen, famous in history and story, on a wooded hill nearly a thousand feet above the sea level, and flanked with glorious vineyards. No national monument is a more perfect expression of the spirit of a great people. The principal figure is a noble female form, thirty-three feet in height, Germania, wearing an imperial crown, and holding a sword wreathed with laurel as an emblem of the unity and strength of the empire. The figure is the embodiment of self-conscious dignity and strength. As a recent American traveler philosophizes, there is nothing vain or conceited about it, but the pride and confidence of one that knows and feels his power. The form erect and standing boldly forth as if before the face of the whole world, the head gracefully poised—thrown a little back, not haughtily nor disdainfully, but with steadfast and self-reliant courage—seems to say, "Behold in me the symbol of a great and mighty people!" On the right hand of the central figure, but far beneath its feet, is a symbolical figure of War, winged, with a helmet on its head, and a trumpet at its mouth, expressive of Titanic energy, as if a single blast of the trumpet would bring a million men in arms to the front. On the left is a symbolical figure of Peace, smiling benignantly, and holding in her arms the emblems of industry. These figures seem to say to the world, and especially to France, "War, terrible and destructive, if we must; but Peace, if you will."

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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In the hearts of the thousands of Germans gathered to unveil this great monument, there must have been a thrill of electric energy as they sang the popular song which it incarnated, for it stands as the crystallized representative of *The Watch on the Rhine*.







*LA FAYETTE*



### *THE MARSEILLAISE.*

Ye sons of France, awake to glory,  
Hark, hark what myriads bid you rise,  
Your children, wives, and grandsires hoary,  
Behold their tears and hear their cries!  
Shall hateful tyrants, mischief breeding,  
With hireling hosts, a ruffian band,  
Affright and desolate the land,  
While peace and liberty lie bleeding?  
    To arms! To arms, ye brave!  
    Th' avenging sword unsheath!  
    March on, march on, all hearts resolved  
    To victory or death.

Now, now the dangerous storm is scowling  
Which treacherous kings, confederate, raise;  
The dogs of war, let loose, are howling,  
And lo! our fields and cities blaze.  
And shall we basely view the ruin,  
While lawless force, with guilty stride,  
Spreads desolation far and wide,  
With crimes and blood his hands embruing?

With luxury and pride surrounded,  
The vile, insatiate despots dare,  
Their thirst of power and gold unbounded,  
To mete and vend the light and air;

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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Like beasts of burden would they load us,  
Like gods would bid their slaves adore:  
But man is man, and who is more?  
Then, shall they longer lash and goad us?

O Liberty! can man resign thee!  
Once having felt thy gen'rous flame?  
Can dungeon, bolts, and bars confine thee,  
Or whips thy noble spirit tame?  
Too long the world has wept, bewailing  
That falsehood's dagger tyrants wield;  
But freedom is our sword and shield,  
And all their arts are unavailing.

—*Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle.*

This is perhaps the most famous song in the world. Not because it is sung more frequently than any other song, but because it has about it in title, romantic story, and fervor, something that has touched the heart of mankind and inspired for it a respect and admiration in all civilized lands.

Its author, Rouget de Lisle, was a young artillery officer who had a fancy for newspaper writing, and had contributed a number of articles to a newspaper in Strasburg owned by the mayor of the city. He dined one evening at his great friend's house, and the conversation turned on the departure of several hundred volunteers from the town of Strasburg to the Army of the Rhine. There were to be public ceremonies connected with the departure of the

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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troops, and Mayor Dietrich urged young De Lisle to write a martial song to be sung on that occasion. He consented and went at once from supper to his room. The weather was bitter cold, but he sat down at the piano, and between reciting and playing and singing, eventually composed the *Marseillaise*, and, thoroughly exhausted, fell asleep with his head on his desk.

In the morning he handed the song complete, with words and music, to his friend, Baron Dietrich. Every one was enchanted with the song, and was roused by it to the greatest enthusiasm. It was sung a few days later at the departure of the troops from Strasburg, and thence to the insurgents of Marseilles, and soon to all the nation. In six months it had been adopted by the people, the army, the legislature, and the whole country. Its appeal to liberty and glory voiced the hunger of the popular heart at the time, and never did song so completely charm and capture an entire people.

De Lisle's mother was a most ardent royalist, and when the hymn was on everybody's lips, asked of her son, "What do people mean by associating our name with the revolutionary hymn which those brigands sing?" De Lisle himself, proscribed as a royalist, when flying for his life in the Jura Mountains, heard it as a menace of death, and recognizing the air as that of his own song, asked his guide what it was called. It must have seemed

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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to him that day like a Nemesis of his own creation. It had then been christened *The Marseillaise Hymn*.

De Lisle was reduced to great poverty in later years. It is characteristic of the French nation that, a short time before his death, when poverty and age had crushed out the hopes and ambitions of life and he was no longer capable of receiving great joy from any honor that might come to him, the National Government decorated him with the ribbon of the Legion of Honor. It will no doubt do the same thing for Émile Zola. Not long after this tardy recognition, several pensions were conferred upon him, which he lived to enjoy but for a few months. He died in 1836.

The English translation of the *Marseillaise* as here given was published in 1795, only three years after the original was written. The translator's name is unknown, but it is considered the best English version.

The popularity of the song has naturally led to a great many claimants concerning it, especially the music. The author of a book entitled *An Englishman in Paris*, relates a very interesting story of a certain Alexandre Boucher, an eccentric violinist, who vowed that he (Boucher) wrote the *Marseillaise* for the colonel of a regiment who was about to leave Marseilles the next day. According to this story, Boucher was seated next Rouget de Lisle at a dinner party in Paris some years after the *Marseil-*





*VIEUX PORT, MARSEILLES*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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*laisse* had become famous throughout the world. They had never met before, and the violinist was very much interested in the gentleman whom, with many others at the table, he complimented on his production; only Boucher confined himself to complimenting him on his poem. "You don't say a word about the music," Rouget replied, "and yet, being a celebrated musician, that ought to interest you. Do you not like it?" "Very much indeed," said Boucher, in a somewhat significant tone. "Well," continued de Lisle, "let me be frank with you; the music is not mine. It was that of a march which came heaven knows whence, and which they kept on playing at Marseilles during the Terror when I was a prisoner at the fortress of St. Jean. I made a few alterations necessitated by the words, and there it is." "Thereupon," says Boucher, "to his great surprise, I hummed the march as I had originally written it. 'Wonderful!' he exclaimed; 'How did you come by it?' When I told him," says the violinist, "he threw himself round my neck, but the next moment he said: 'I am very sorry, my dear Boucher, but I am afraid that you will be despoiled forever, do what you will; for your music and my words go so well together that they seem to have sprung simultaneously from the same brain, and the world, even if I proclaimed my indebtedness to you, would never believe it.' " "Keep the loan," was Boucher's magnanimous reply. "Without your genius, my

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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march would be forgotten by now. You have given it a patent of nobility. It is yours forever."

All this is very interesting, but, unfortunately for Boucher's claim, De Lisle had put the music and the words together before the Reign of Terror began, and the story must fall to the ground.

Under the monarchical governments in France the song has always been held seditious, because of its extraordinary influence upon the French people. The first time since the Revolution that it was not regarded as treasonable by those in authority was at the opening of the World's Fair in 1878.









*CHARLES EDWARD STUART, THE PRETENDER*

*THE BLUE BELLS OF SCOTLAND.*

Oh! where, tell me where, is your Highland laddie  
gone?

Oh! where, tell me where is your Highland laddie  
gone?

“ He’s gone with streaming banners where noble  
deeds are done,  
And my sad heart will tremble till he come safely  
home,  
He’s gone with streaming banners where noble  
deeds are done,  
And my sad heart will tremble till he come safely  
home.”

Oh! where, tell me where, did your Highland lad-  
die stay?

Oh! where, tell me where, did your Highland lad-  
die stay?

“ He dwelt among the holly trees, beside the rapid  
Spey,  
And many a blessing followed him the day he went  
away,  
He dwelt beneath the holly trees, beside the river  
Spey,  
And many a blessing followed him the day he went  
away.”

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Oh! what, tell me what, does your Highland laddie  
wear?

Oh! what, tell me what, does your Highland laddie  
wear?

“ A bonnet with a lofty plume, the gallant badge of  
war,

And a plaid across the manly breast, that yet shall  
wear a star,

A bonnet with a lofty plume, the gallant badge of  
war,

And a plaid across the manly breast, that yet shall  
wear a star.”

Suppose, ah, suppose, that some cruel, cruel wound  
Should pierce your Highland laddie, and all your  
hopes confound;

“ The pipe would play a cheering march, the ban-  
ners round him fly,

And for his king and country dear, with pleasure  
would he die,

The pipe would play a cheering march, the ban-  
ners round him fly,

And for his king and country dear, with pleasure  
would he die.

“ But I will hope to see him yet in Scotland's bonnie  
bounds,

But I will hope to see him yet in Scotland's bonnie  
bounds;

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His native land of liberty shall nurse his glorious  
wounds,  
While wide through all our Highland hills his war-  
like name resounds,  
His native land of liberty shall nurse his glorious  
wounds,  
While wide through all our Highland hills his war-  
like name resounds."

*Annie McVicar Grant.*

The father of Annie McVicar was an officer in the British army and was transferred to this country for service in the American Colonies in 1757. When he left the old country with his troops his little daughter was but two years old. Soon after he went away the little girl wandered from home one day, greatly to the alarm of her family. She was overtaken by a friend, and when asked where she was going said, "I am going to America to see papa."

In 1758, the mother and little girl crossed the ocean and landed at Charleston, finding still a long, tiresome trip to make before they rejoined the beloved soldier father, who was stationed at Albany, New York. Here it was, in this then frontier land, that Annie grew to girlhood. She had only two treasures besides Indian trinkets and relics of Scotland, and these were Milton and a dictionary. She committed *Paradise Lost* to memory, and the blind

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poet's good and evil angels became as real to her as the soldiers about the fort. One day, when in the presence of Madame Schuyler, who was the great lady of Albany at that time, the little girl made a very appropriate quotation from Milton which so delighted the fashionable woman that thereafter she showed the child much kindness and regarded her as though she had been her own daughter.

When Annie was thirteen years old her father was transferred again to Scotland, and a few years later, at Fort Augustus, Annie McVicar fell in love with James Grant, the chaplain of the fort. She did her duty as a minister's wife, and one can imagine that she had plenty to do, as eight children came to their fireside, one after another, in rapid succession. Mr. Grant died poor, leaving his wife with these eight children dependent upon her. She must do something to make a living and keep the wolf from the door, and in her sore straits she gathered up the poems which she had written from time to time, and successfully published them by subscription. Afterward she brought out several volumes entitled *Letters from the Mountains*, which passed through several editions and brought her considerable profit. These fairly launched her on the sea of authorship, and many volumes of prose and verse followed, which, together with a pension granted her by the government, placed her in most comfortable circumstances, and she reached the ripe age

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*STIRLING CASTLE*



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of eighty-four, surrounded by a large circle of admiring friends in the city of Edinburgh.

Mrs. Grant wrote *The Blue Bells of Scotland* on the occasion of the departure of the Marquis of Huntly for the Continent with his regiment of Highland troops in 1799. A book entitled *The North Country Chorister*, printed in 1802, included this song under the title *The New Highland Lad*. Ritson, the editor of this book, says: "The song has been lately introduced upon the stage. It was originally *The Bells of Scotland*, but was revised by Mrs. Jordan, who altered the words and sang them to a tune of her own which superseded the old air." When Charles Mackay and Sir Henry Rowley Bishop were arranging old English airs, this song came under discussion. Mackay says: "*The Blue Bells of Scotland* is almost invariably spoken of as a Scottish air; but Sir Henry found reason to suspect that it was English, and urged me to write new words to it, to dispossess, if possible, the old song of Mrs. Jordan. He was induced to form this opinion by receiving from Mr. Fitzgerald 'a Sussex tune' to a song commencing: 'Oh, I have been forester this many a long day.' Three or four bars of the melody were almost identical with the second part of *The Blue Bells of Scotland*, but as the remainder bore no resemblance to that popular favorite, and the whole tune was so beautiful that it was well worth preserving, I so far complied with Sir

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Henry's wish as to write *The Magic Harp* to Mr. Fitzgerald's kind contribution to our work. Sir Henry wrote under date of the 22nd of October, 1852, 'I am strongly of the opinion that when Mrs. Jordan composed the music of *The Blue Bells of Scotland*, she founded the air upon that rescued from oblivion for us by Mr. Fitzgerald—or rather that she originally intended to sing it to that tune, but finding some parts of it too high for her voice, which was of a very limited compass, she altered them, and the air became that of *The Blue Bells of Scotland*.' "

Mrs. Grant's *Highland Laddie* and Mrs. Jordan's *Blue Bells of Scotland* have kept time together so long now, that it is not likely any musical critic will ever disturb them again. The following altered version of Mrs. Grant's song has in some places been even more popular than the original:—

"Oh where, and oh where is your Highland laddie gone?

'He's gone to fight the French for King George upon the throne;

And it's oh! in my heart, how I wish him safe at home.'

"Oh where, and oh where does your Highland laddie dwell?

'He dwells in merrie Scotland, at the sign of the Blue Bell;

And it's oh, in my heart, that I love my laddie well.'

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“ What clothes, in what clothes is your Highland  
laddie clad?

‘ His bonnet’s of the Saxon green, his waistcoat’s  
of the plaid;

And it’s oh! in my heart, that I love my Highland  
lad.’

“ Suppose, oh, suppose that your Highland lad  
should die?

‘ The bagpipes shall play over him, I’ll lay me  
down and cry;

And it’s oh! in my heart, that I wish he may not  
die!’ ”









*RUDYARD KIPLING*

### *RECESSIONAL.*

God of our fathers, known of old —  
Lord of our far-flung battle line —  
Beneath whose awful Hand we hold  
Dominion over palm and pine —  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget — lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies —  
The captains and the kings depart;  
Still stands thine ancient sacrifice,  
A humble and a contrite heart.  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget — lest we forget!

Far-called our navies melt away —  
On dune and headland sinks the fire —  
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!  
Judge of the nations, spare us yet,  
Lest we forget — lest we forget!

If, drunk with sight of power, we loose  
Wild tongues that have not thee in awe;  
Such boasting as the Gentiles use,  
Or lesser breeds without the Law —  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget — lest we forget!

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For heathen heart that puts her trust  
In reeking tube and iron shard —  
All valiant dust that builds on dust,  
And, guarding, calls not thee to guard —  
For frantic boast and foolish word,  
Thy mercy on thy people, Lord!

Amen.

—*Rudyard Kipling.*

Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, celebrated on the 22nd of June, 1897, has gone into history as the greatest human pageant in the whole story of humanity. As sovereign of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, she occupies the most powerful position on earth. In addition to the material power represented, the admiration and love in which she is held by the truest people of every nation and kindred, because of her wise reign as well as her long and pure life, swelled her jubilee into a tribute of the united affection of civilized mankind. Preparations were made for months beforehand. Representatives from kings and presidents, as well as from the army and navy of every country in the world, came to do her homage.

It was not only Queen Victoria's day, it was Great Britain's day. Not only in London, where the great procession of representatives and soldiers from all the Colonies marched in honor of the gracious queen, but the services in honor of the day



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belted the globe. They began in the Colonies of New Zealand and Australia; afterward in South Africa; and so they followed the sun westward. When his light had crossed the ocean and reached the continent of America, the citizens of St. John's, Newfoundland, recommenced the anthem which was taken up in succession, in town after town across the continent through Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The loyal dwellers at Victoria, British Columbia, tossed it across the Pacific, and on to India, throughout all the Colonies of the empire of the Union Jack.

It was a sublime and unparalleled occasion, and yet it is not too much to say that the most splendid and perhaps the most enduring souvenir of the Queen's Jubilee was Rudyard Kipling's poem — the *Recessional*. The editor of the *London Times*, in which journal it was first published, declares that it is the greatest poem of the century, and it is quite possible that such may be the verdict of the next generation.

This great poem came at the close of the Jubilee exercises and struck the world with a surprise. While Mr. Kipling has long been regarded as a great writer of fiction, and a strong poet, the deep note of strength, the undertone of volcanic earnestness, as well as the profound religious faith of the *Recessional*, were qualities which had not been attributed to Mr. Kipling by the majority of people. Yet, as

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Dr. George Horr, one of our brightest editors, has clearly set forth, Kipling, both as novelist and poet, has always portrayed the manly, strenuous side of life. He does not falter at putting before us ugly representations of vice, but beneath all the roughness and viciousness of men whom he describes, he reveals to us the real bedrock of genuine manliness. He never seeks to make us admire a cheat, a sneak, or a mountebank of any kind. Even in his most unconventional stories there is a Puritan strain in his temper, both in mental and moral quality, which holds him to the great essential moralities.

It is certainly appropriate that such a man should have eyes to see the profound religious side of the Queen's Jubilee, for at the bottom, everything that is real, that is manly and heroic, is also religious. It is not to be marveled at that this keen student of human nature and of human history should have been able to perceive that "the far-flung battle line," "the dominion over palm and pine," "the tumult and the shouting," "the captains and the kings," and "the far-called navies" are only dust and ashes, unless God lives in the hearts and controls the character of those who wield these instruments; and that "the frantic boast," and "the foolish word" may pull a national structure down upon the heads of a people drunken with their own power and riches. The sublime and solemn refrain of the poem,—





*HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT*

## Immortal Songs of Camp and Field

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"Lest we forget — lest we forget,"

called back not only the British people in all parts of the world, but the conscience of all civilization, to the one abiding source of human power.

The fact that Kipling's poem touched the heart of the English-speaking world as nothing else connected with the Jubilee did, is, as Doctor Horr states, "a profound testimony to the existence and dominance of the religious instinct in the Anglo-Saxon race. We have often been told that luxury, and pride, and gross materialism, have quenched the Puritan spirit. We have never believed that, though it has been hard sometimes to maintain the contrary against almost overwhelming evidence. But under the breath of a moral issue the smouldering fire has leaped into flame. The poet who elicits this temper, interprets it to itself, and gives it form and voice, renders a service to the higher interests of the race that can hardly be computed. Religion has not lost its hold when such lines as these are universally recognized as the noblest feature of the Jubilee:—

"If, drunk with sight of power, we loose  
Wild tongues that have not thee in awe;  
Such boasting as the Gentiles use,  
Or lesser breeds without the Law —  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget — lest we forget!

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“ For heathen heart that puts her trust  
In reeking tube and iron shard —  
All valiant dust that builds on dust,  
And, guarding, calls not thee to guard —  
For frantic boast and foolish word,  
Thy mercy on thy people, Lord.”

Mr Edward Bok, the brilliant editor of the *Ladies' Home Journal*, secured the service of the celebrated composer Reginald de Koven to compose suitable music for this poem, and it was published in that magazine in the issue for May, 1898. De Koven's music promises to be a great success. On last Memorial Sunday, May 29, the *Recessional* was sung to De Koven's music by church choirs in every large town and city in the United States. Surely nothing could be more appropriate for Americans to sing at the present time than the *Recessional*. It is a time when it is important that the citizens of our proud Republic shall remember that not in her vast territory, or inexhaustible wealth, or in mighty navy or splendid army, but in the blessing of Almighty God lies the real strength of a nation. Kipling's august prayer and refrain is as appropriate for us as for Great Britain: —

“ Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget — lest we forget! ”

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